THE

POLISH AMERICANS

OF

INDIANA

THEIR HISTORY

AND

THEIR JUBILEE

POLISH MILLENNIUM OF CHRISTIANITY

966 1966

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POLA

POLAND has left the citizens of the wo
an invaluable gift which
few other nations in modern history
have equalled.

She has shown the torture that can be
withstood bravely for
certain ideals and the humilities that can be born
out of national pride and honor.

Thus she has given to all suppressed people
everywhere a courageous example
from which they could derive
a renewed vitality to pursue their cause.

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POLAND'S MILLENNIUM OF CHRISTIANITY

INDIANA OBSERVANCE

SOUVENIR BOOK

Edited by THE MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE
1628 Ridge Road — Munster, Indiana

LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA

(Chen-stoh-ho'-va)

In 1656 the leaders of the state consecrated the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth to the Black Madonna of Czestochowa, "Matka Boska Czestochowska" and crowned her "Queen of Poland".

THE POLISH MILLENIUM

We commemorate the anniversary of the baptism of Mieszko, Poland's first historical ruler, whose acceptance of Roman Catholicism set the stage for the welcome of the Polish people into the Catholic Church.

Full and far reaching is the significance of this event, for it not only affected the soul of the individual man, but also drew consequences for his followers and neighbors, for his land and his church.

Mieszko accepted Catholicism from the Latin Rite with all its influences: its scripture and tradition, its doctrine and discipline, its liturgy and ritual, its sacramental system and hierarchical organization, its religious orders of dedicated men and women, its missionaries and parish priests, its churches and schools, its saints and scholars, its catechism and mysticism, its ideals and examplars—to become the source of the nation's supernatural strength in prosperity and partition.

As a faithful servant, however, Poland has multiplied her talents, giving the Church millions of members and hundreds of thousands of priests and bishops, monks and friars, nuns and brothers. There are twelve native-born Polish canonized saints and sixty-two native-born Polish Blessed. It has won Lithuania to the Catholic Faith and brought the non-Latin Ukrainians and Armenians within its borders to Petrine allegiance. It has defended the Faith and Europe itself against the Tartars in 1241, against the Turks in 1683, and against the Bolsheviks in 1920. It has supplied the College of Cardinals with twenty-one members, from Zbigniew Olesnicki in 1431 to Stefan Wyszynski in 1953. It has sent delegates to nine of the twenty-one ecumenical councils, and its priests and nuns to all the continents of the globe.

Polish writers have produced a literature permeated with Catholic spirit one of whose major poetic chords is devotion to Mary, reflected also in some 670 Marian sanctuaries dotting the Polish land. Its scholars, like Paul Wlodkowic, have defended religious freedom or, like Kopernik, have scanned distant planets to extend the frontiers of knowledge. Its artists have freely used their talents to glorify God and his saints in music, painting, sculpture, and architecture. Its native treasury of piety speaks of the beloved "Pan Jezus" with tender Slavic affection in which a sad smile encounters a tremulous tear on page after page.

In an essay entitled "The Church in Poland," I. M. Bochenski, O.P., has pointed out that the Church of his native land is one of the greatest pillars of contemporary Catholic Culture. Though in its history it has provided, as compared with other Catholic countries, few great thinkers, little missionary activity, no great expeditions, it has accomplished in reality more than all of these taken together, because it has realized the end for which the Church was established. By creating a unified people living with faith and charity it has occupied itself with the very reason of its existence and not with its means, for essentially the work of the Church is not earthly fame, not a highly developed theology, not the conquest of foreign lands, but the salvation of souls. The Catholic characteristic of Poland is nothing like the splendor and mysticism of the Spanish nor anything like the profundity of French theory; words can't describe it, for it is fashioned of the intangible qualities of piety and devotion which are rooted in the hearts and which meet the eye at every devotional service, at every prayer, every procession, in every Polish home. Through one thousand years the Church of Poland was able to create its own admirable and distinctive body of custom, art, and Catholic life which on all levels seek to affect a deeper realization of the teachings of the Gospel of Christ.

Primarily a religious observance, the approaching millenary involves, above all, an earnest spiritual preparation. Under the inspiration of Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski, this has taken the form of a program of spiritual renewal known as the Great Novena of the Millennium. Extending from 1957 into 1966, this moral crusade of prayer and sacrifice aims not only at disposing the Polish Catholics for the holy observance of the Millennium but also at strengthening them spiritually against all encroaching powers of darkness.

Each year of the Great Novena, Polish Catholics solemnly renew their 1956 Czestochowa pledge to the heavenly Queen of Poland and begin the spiritual work appointed for the coming twelve months. In 1957, the objective of prayer and sacrifice was loving loyalty to God, the Cross, the Gospel of Christ, and the Church; in 1958—personal sanctification through life in the state of sanctifying grace; in 1959—defense of the life of the soul and the body; in 1960—sanctification of sacramental marriage; in 1961—strengthening family life in God; in 1962—dedication of the youth to Christ; in 1963—extension of social justice and love; in 1964—cultivation of Christian virtues and elimination of national vices; and in 1965—invocation of Mary, the Protectress and Queen of Poland. *(Continued)*

Pope John XXIII blessed the Great Novena and encouraged Polish Catholics to remain faithful to their promises and to prepare themselves with ardent hearts for the thousandth anniversary.

"In circumstances that have often been difficult, amid wars and trials of every kind, the Catholics of Poland have always kept high and ablaze the torch of the Gospel and of loyalty to Jesus the Redeemer: *'you are now no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are citizens with the saints and members of God's household you are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.'* (Eph. 2, 19-20)

"We trust that the new millennium, that opens on your path, will be a happy and generous going forth on this same road of steadfast faith, of good example and brotherly charity."

Americans should know about the Millennium of Poland, for it would be impossible for them to understand Europe without a true understanding of the Polish nation which has been referred to in history as the "Key to Europe". Naturally, without a knowledge of Europe it would be impossible for Americans to understand America.

American Catholics should know about the Millennium as an obligation of love, for Poland is an important and vital part of the Mystical Body of Christ.

Americans of Polish Ancestry should know about the Millennium for they owe it to their origin, religion, ancesters, and to their education to know well the story of one thousand years of Catholicism in the land of their forefathers. Without Catholic Poland there would be no Catholic Polonia.

. . . The Indiana Observance

The Polonia of Indiana, conscious of their Millennium obligations organized their own great and joyous observance. In 1965 the Polish Clergy of the diocese of Gary formed six Millennium Clergy Committees and a large Millennium Chorus of over one hundred forty voices. Later laymen joined the Clergy with their own Millennium Committees and together they prepared the 1966 festivities. These celebrations started with a Parade through the heart of Gary on May 1, 1966, and a Thanksgiving Pontifical Mass offered at the Gary Cathedral in the Polish language by His Excellency Bishop Andrew G. Grutka, with an enthusiastic crowd wholeheartedly participating in the singing and in the special, appropriate ceremonies. This book contains details of the elaborate Millennium Program to be presented on May 15, 1966, at the Gary Memorial Auditorium, which will highlight Polish customs and history. This will be followed on the same evening by the official Millennium State Banquet at the Gary Hotel.

The May celebrations will end with a Millennium Youth Fiesta at the Polonia Youth Center in Crown Point on Sunday, May 29, 1966.

The Polish Americans of Indiana realize that they are standing on the threshold of the second Millennium of their history. They wish to pass on to their younger generations information about their past, about the first Polish settlers in this region, about the origin of their parishes, about their parochial and lay organizations. The reader of this Souvenir Book will find this historical material under the heading of the different towns in Northern Indiana.

Our thankful thoughts go to those generous subscribers who made this publication possible.

. . . From Poland to Indiana

The Polish state, which emerged on the European scene in the middle of the Tenth Century, to play a significant part for over eight hundred years, was situated near the western limits of the great European plain which stretches from the Urals to the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. The political consequences of their geographical location have been brought home to the Poles since the beginning of their history. "From all sides," wrote Peter Grabowski in the middle of the Sixteenth Century, "the plains and ways to Poland are open and broad to the enemy." Especially the Germans on the West and the Russians on the East had pressed forward or had been pressed back in conflict with the Poles from the very beginning of the nation's recorded history.

The partitioning of Poland by the three great powers - - Russia, Prussia, and Austria - - consummated by a treaty in the autumn of 1795 caused Poland to disappear from the map of Europe till 1918. Some Poles seeking adventure, others seeking peace from foreign partition and oppression, migrated to other countries. The largest number settled in America. Poles settled in the large industrial areas of New York, Cleveland, and Chicago. From these key points, the Polish immigrants contributed to the settlement of other areas. Many of them made Indiana their new home and embraced this "Land of the Free" as their new Country. Ever since, they have been faithfully and generously contributing to the historic development of Northern Indiana, whose Calumet Region not so long ago used to be considered Indiana's Last Frontier.

The Indiana Calumet Region's history may be divided into three periods. The first comprises the years before 1833 when the Indians, particularly the Potawatomi, occupied the area, and when it was controlled in succession by the French, English, and Americans. From the earliest times the Calumet attracted the attention of the Indians and the white men. Its sloughs and swamps teemed with the fur-bearing animals so important to both the Indians and the fur traders. Also, because of its location at the foot of Lake Michigan, the region was crossed by numerous Indian trails which in later years were used by explorers, missionaries, and finally by the pioneers to reach other places farther west. The first and only permanent white settlement in this initial phase of the Calumet's history was a fur-trading post, established by Joseph Bailly in 1822 on the north bank of the Little Calumet River in what is now Porter County.

The second period, which extends roughly from 1833 to 1869, began with the arrival of the first settlers. Since the Calumet was the last distinct section in Indiana to be settled, it was truly the state's last frontier. This was a slow and plodding era which could boast of only two incorporated towns, Valparaiso and Crown Point, the county seats of the region. Although the first railroads to reach Chicago from the East crossed Northwest Indiana in 1851-52, some years passed before the iron horse had any noticeable effect on the lives of the people.

America's industrial revolution, pushing slowly but surely into the lower Great Lakes region, ushered in the final phase of the Calumet's history. In 1869, George Hammond, pioneer in the shipping of dressed beef by refrigeration, established a meat-packing plant on the site of the city that now bears his name. But the real impact of the industrial revolution upon the area was delayed until suitable sites for basic industries were no longer available in Chicago. Industry then expanded eastward into Indiana along the coast of Lake Michigan, and there arose Whiting, started by the Standard Oil Company in 1889; East Chicago, incorporated in the same year, where Inland Steel began operations in 1901; and finally Gary, founded in 1906 when the United States Steel Corporation began the construction of its great mills amid the sand ridges along the lake front.

To this new industrial area and further yet to the regions of Michigan City, South Bend, and Fort Wayne, Polish immigrants flocked in search of a livelihood and freedom from oppression. They applied themselves to hard work; there were no easy jobs available to them; and they earned their daily bread by the sweat of their brows. Yet material prosperity was not sufficient for them. United by their common history, language, and traditions, strengthened by their deep faith, the Polish settlers were determined to give expression to their faith and traditions by organizing themselves in "flocks of Christ." Within the areas they chose as their new homes in Indiana, their dream was to have their own church - - their own parish - - and thus the seeds of their faith were planted, giving rise to the strong Polish Catholic parishes in Indiana today.

. . . *GARY*

The City of Gary, founded in 1906, is the youngest of the region's industrial cities. Its history began with the construction of the huge steel mills and various subsidiary plants by the United States Steel Corporation at the southern tip of Lake Michigan. From its very inception, Gary was primarily a steel town and the prosperity of its citizens was determined by the great mills that were responsible for its existence.

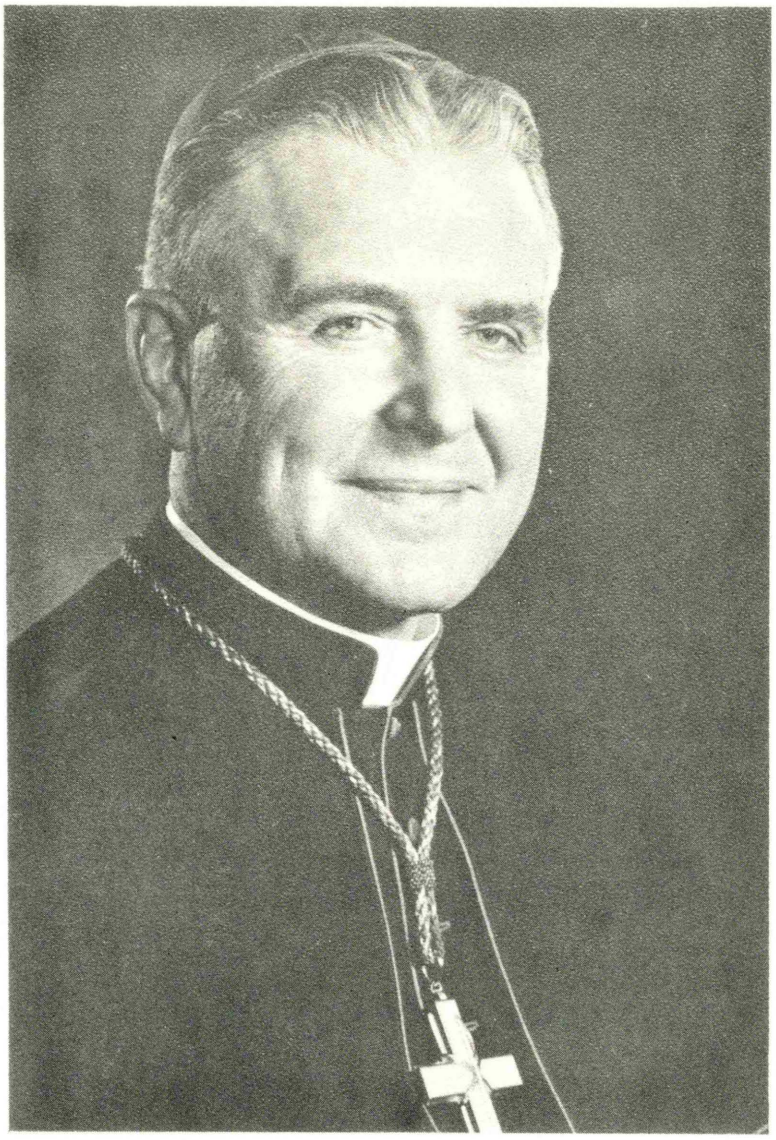
Men from every walk of life flocked into the embryo city to seek their fortunes. Among them were Polish immigrants who were to play a great part in the shaping of the young city's destiny. Although most of the Polish people settled in the three districts in which Polish churches are now located - - the section east of Broadway and south of 15th, referred to as the South Side, Central District, or "New Immigration" section; Glen Park; and Tolleston - - there was a continued movement into other sections of the city.

Since the Poles settled in Gary in larger numbers than did the Hungarians or any of the Slavic groups, it was natural that they should strive to establish their own parishes. St. Hedwig's was founded in 1908 to meet this need.

The Polish people of the Tolleston area attended St. Hedwig's under the Reverend Kahellek until their own parish, Sacred Heart, was founded in 1913. This is one of the churches which was a beneficiary of the contribution made by the United States Steel Corporation towards the founding of five Gary churches.

For the benefit of the Polish people living in Glen Park, a parish was founded and located on the corner of Ridge Road and Delaware Street. The Reverend Michael Gadacz was appointed the first pastor of Holy Family Church when it was organized in 1926.

We are happy now to give you some more details about these parishes and their people.



DIOCESE OF GARY
P. O. BOX 474
GARY, INDIANA

May 1, 1966

Beloved Faithful:

The Millennium of Polish Christianity is sincerely welcomed as the finest of opportunities to express our friendliest sentiments of deep esteem and warm appreciation for all our beloved people of Polish descent. One thousand years of flaming loyalty to the faith of Christ, many of these under the most trying circumstances, have left a distinctly clear stamp on the Polish character, so definitive that Pole and Christian appear synonymous.

Within the confines of the Diocese of Gary there is no area which has not felt and benefited from the truly Christian spirit of the Polish faithful. On the list of parishioners of each and every one of our parishes can be found the easily identifiable names of people of Polish descent, and as members of these parish congregations the warmth of their faith in action is as readily discernible as their names in print.

With overpowering joy we join wholeheartedly in the significant celebration of this Millennium of Christianity. Most gratefully we thank Almighty God for the countless blessings encompassed by this Millennium. Humbly and devoutly we beg Our Heavenly Father to give strength and courage to the faithful in Poland so that they may bravely overcome the stubborn opposition now tormenting them in the free exercise of their religious beliefs.

May the steady practice of the faith of Christ in this land of the free by the faithful of Polish descent in the hallowed tradition of their forefathers be a constant source of consolation and edification to all their neighbors and reward them with an abiding peace and an intimate perception of Divine satisfaction.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

+Andrew G. Grutka

Andrew G. Grutka, Bishop of Gary

THE SIGNING OF THE MILLENNIUM DAY PROCLAMATION

Left to right: (1.) Mr. Albert M. Mysogland, Commander of Kosciuszko Post No. 207, American Legion of Gary Millennium Parade Marshall.
(2) Rev. Louis Wozniak, Sacred Heart Church, 2830 West 15th Avenue, Gary, Indiana. Member of the Polish Clergy Millennium Committee.
(3) His Honor A. Martin Katz, Mayor, City of Gary.
(4) Miss Betty Malinka, City Clerk, Gary.
(5) Judge Felix A. Kaul, Circuit Court of Lake County, Chairman of General Council of the Indiana Millennium Committee.

Poland has given the world many leaders in every walk of life: namely, Copernicus in Astronomy, Chopin in Music, Kosciuszko and Pulaski in the field of military endeavor, Marie Sklodowska-Curie in Physics and Chemistry, Sienkiewicz in Literature, Paderewski in Statesmanship, Cardinal Wyszynski in Religion, Kiepura in Opera, and thousands of others in every field of endeavor, and millions of citizens of Poland emigrated to the United States and through the last four centuries have toiled and given their best to build the greatness of the United States.

(from the Millennium Proclamation)

A. MARTIN KATZ, Mayor
City of Gary

History of The
ST. HEDWIG PARISH
GARY, INDIANA

The first Poles to settle the newly formed Gary area, once established, sought to build their own church. Heretofore, they attended Church services in the neighboring parishes in East Chicago, Hammond, and Indiana Harbor.

On July 21, 1907, a group of Poles, who had already settled on the Sand Dunes, met for the purpose of establishing a Church and school of their own. With all in complete agreement, it was decided that here at the place of their first meeting they would erect to God, as a token of their esteem, a church and school. Outstanding in this group of organizers were: Frank Zawadzki, with whom the idea of a parish originated, Anton Bankus and Peter Pisarski. The first parish committee consisted of Peter Pisarski, the President, Valentine Fabjanski, Valentine Nowak, Frank Zawadzki and John Wasilewski. The Reverend Anthony A. Stachowiak may also be listed among the organizers of the new Parish.

The days that followed this first organizational meeting brought to light many obstacles. The first survey of the parish listed 25 families. Would these few be enough to build and support a Church and School? Father Stachowiak, with great foresight, insisted that a large Church be built. The estimated cost of such a structure was $15,000.00. The parish treasury contained $900.00, laboriously amassed by means of a house-to-house collection, a number of picnics, and other activities. At this critical point, the Gary Land Company donated seven lots - - and the parish Church was under construction.

On July 4, 1908, the Most Reverend Bishop Herman J. Alerding blessed the new church under the patronage of St. Hedwig. Originally, the parish was to be placed under the patronage of St. Casimir. However, since another parish in the diocese had already placed themselves under his patronage, the new parish in Gary was to be known as St. Hedwig. The Reverend Paul Rhode, who later became a Bishop, preached the dedication sermon. The first altar was donated by The Reverend Francis Wojtalewicz of South Chicago.

Since its inception, Father Stachowiak had served the new parish for two years and ten months. In 1909, The Reverend Peter A. Kahellek was assigned the first resident pastor. In 1910, the parish school was constructed, and in that year, the enrollment totalled 50. By 1911, the school enrollment increased to 200 students. Thereafter, St. Hedwig School, staffed by the Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kunegunda, continued to grow until it reached an enrollment exceeding a thousand students.

In 1913 the Sisters' Convent was built. During the same year, the Reverend Michael Swiatkowski became the first resident assistant.

The construction of a combination Church and School Building in 1918 ushered in a new era of development in St. Hedwig Parish. To this structure, the parish added a spacious rectory and a new church building. All of these still remain and form the nucleus of the parish today. The buildings and property of the Parish have a valuation in excess of a million dollars, today.

In addition to Fathers Stachowiak and Kahellek, other pastors who had served St. Hedwig are: The Reverend Michael Swiatkowski, 1929 to 1948; The Reverend Louis Michalski, 1948 to 1965; The Reverend Casimir Senderak, 1965, present. Assistants who had served at St. Hedwig's are: The Reverend Michael Petzold, Frank Libert, Louis Ratajczak, Stanley Zjawinski, Jerome Walski, Michael Urbanski, Walerian Karcz, Joseph Utas, Wencel Karp, Louis Madejczyk, Joseph Dziadowicz, Bernard R. Ciesielski, O.C.D., Flavian Niebianski, S.D.S., Louis B. Wozniak, John Murzyn, Brian Braun OFM Cap. Through the hands of all these priests, supernatural life was brought to 6,163 children through the Sacrament of Baptism; 1,684 young couples were joined in Matrimony; and 2,160 were laid to rest. Thousands of children were prepared to receive the Sacred Body and Blood of Christ, and these same thousands were prepared to continue their studies in higher schools of education by the Sisters of St. Francis of Blessed Kunegunda.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Gary (Glen Park), Indiana

Holy Family Parish was organized in 1926.

Father Ignacy Gapczynski, F. Spychalski and N. Ziantora were the motivating spirit; land was purchased at the present site; a building was obtained, something of a pre-fabricated nature (416 East Ridge Road).

This building was the first church. In the basement a school was organized. Sisters of St. Joseph were the first teachers of about 60 children. Today there are 246 children in school.

Father Michael Gadacz became the first pastor and remained in that position for 37 years. He suggested the name of Holy Family. There were about 80 families at the start, compared with over 500 as of today.

Outstanding at the time were the following families: Lazarz, Sujecki, Schabowski, Depta, Monik, Brzoz, Horan, just to mention a few.

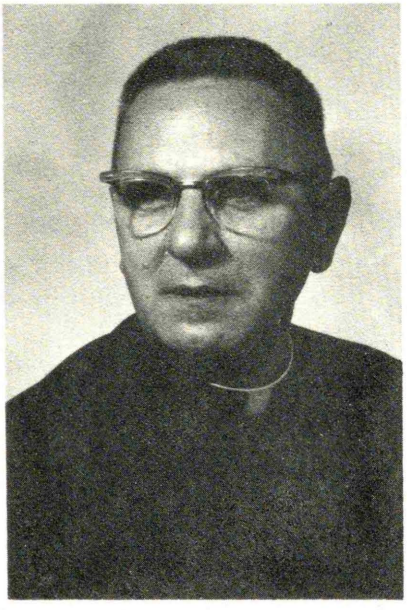
The wooden church soon proved to be inadequate; plans were formulated for a new, brick building. The church was located at ground level; a center for social activities on the second floor, while a four room, eight grade school was on the third floor.

Ground was broken for this new building in 1929. The depression years have left many memories of intensified activities for the payment of the parish debt. Parish organizations contributed much, spiritually and financially, toward this end. Societies, such as, Holy Family (Zjednoczenie) Krola Jana III Sobieskiego (Zwiazek) were the first to be organized, followed by the Rosary Society, later by the Holy Name and Archconfraternity.

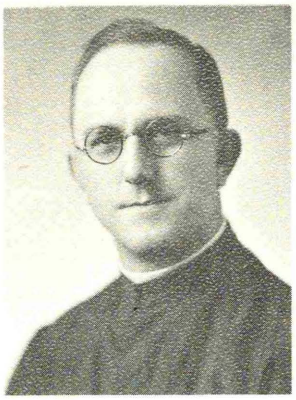
After Father Gadacz's resignation, he was followed by Fathers: Anthony Balczun, Casimir Senderak and Stanley Milewski.

During the pastorate of Father Senderak, an additional four classrooms were added to the school replacing the hall of the second floor.

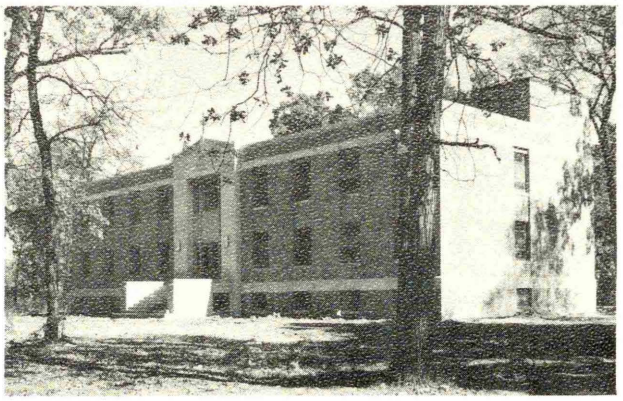
Plans are being formulated today for a new church social center, expanded school facilities, convent and rectory.



Rev. Stanley J. Milewski, Pastor

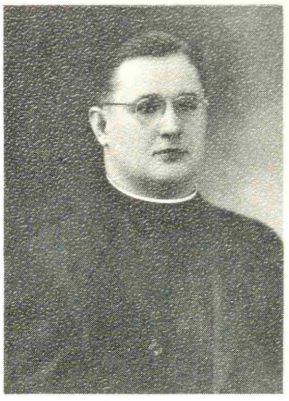


Fr. Flavian Niebianski
Founder, died 1950



The Polish Salvatorian Fathers Mission House

5755 Pennsylvania Street, Gary, Indiana



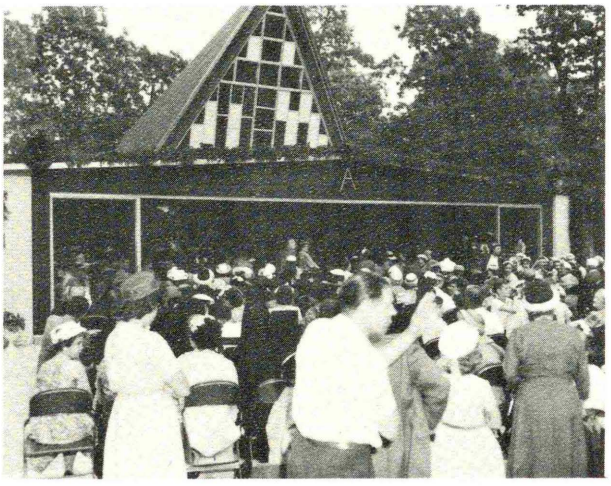
Bro. Emil Rabus
Died 1951

The first Salvatorians (Ojcowie Salwatorianie) of the province of Krakow, Poland, arrived in the United States in 1938, and established themselves in Gary in the year 1941. The new arrivals had for their assignment to engage in missionary work among Americans of Polish extraction, thus providing funds for the home-province in training future priests and missionaries.

Today, the Fathers and Brothers, stationed at the monastery, do extensive missionary work in the neighboring parishes and dioceses, giving retreats, conducting novenas and Forty Hours' devotions. In addition to this, they conduct days of retreat throughout the year in the monastery chapel, and Fatima Devotions in the Polish Language (from May to November), and in the English Language on every first Saturday of the month (from June to October).

Besides the above-mentioned activities, the Salvatorian Fathers publish a very attractive 128-page yearly Almanac in the Polish and English Language called "Kalendarz Salwatora". A Polish Religious Program, having a large following is conducted every Sunday on Radio Station WJOB in Hammond, Indiana.

The Salvatorians
in Gary:
Fr. Chester Golabek
Fr. Angelus Sosna
Fr. Pius Pientka
Fr. Andrew Pitlok
Fr. Adam Figula
Fr. Gaudentius Rogowski
Bro. Marion Tomasiak
Bro. Dominic Piejko



The Salvatorians
in Verona, N.J.:
Fr. Dominic Peszka
Fr. Stanley Matusik
Fr. Adalb Olszowka
Fr. Anselm Wronski
Fr. A. Stefanczyk
Fr. Bogdan Chudoba
Bro. Roman Szmolka

The Salvatorian Fathers and Brothers hereby extend to all Catholics of Gary, Chicago and the adjoining areas a heartfelt welcome to the monastery and the Fatima Shrine, with an ardent appeal for their support of this holy place of worship.

SALVATORIAN FATHERS
5755 Pennsylvania Street
Gary, Indiana 46409

POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS, INC.
INDIANA DIVISION

The Polish American Congress, formed in 1944 for the purpose of representing all the Polish organized groups in the U.S.A., saw many of its branches being organized the same year all over the States. It was on December 9, 1944 that the Indiana Division of the Polish American Congress came to life representing almost all the Polish organizations and institutions in the State.

The first Board of officers consisted of: Wladyslaw Tolpa, President; Reverend Valerian Karcz, Joseph Krengiel, Rosalie Slusarz, Vincent Kendziora, Vice-Presidents; M. J. Krajewski, Recording Secretary; Ben Grochowski, Treasurer; Reverend Louis Bozik, Francis Spychalski, Anthony Boerg, Delegates to the National Board.

The second president of the Division was Adam Wadas from East Chicago, and the third one was Benjamin Lesniak with the following as members of the board of officers: Victoria Basinski, Vincent Kendziora, Sophie Jerzyk, Joseph Krengiel, Vice-Presidents; Adam Wadas, Financial Secretary; Joseph Wiewiora, Secretary General; Ignatius Michalski, Treasurer.

The fourth President was Al Wozniak from Gary. Presently the following are leading in the activities of the Indiana Division of the Polish American Congress: John J. Ziemba, President; Joanna Zotkiewicz, Valeria Mackowiak, Joseph Krengiel (Michigan City), Alois Pejza (South Bend), Walter Sklodowski, Vice-Presidents; Lottie (Wawrzyniak) Kubiak, Recording Secretary; Adam Drazbo, Financial Secretary; Edward Depta, Treasurer; Lucian Markiewicz, Sergeant-at-arms.

The Advisory Board is comprised of: T. S. Kubiak (Radio Gary), Edward D. Oskierko (Radio Hammond), Ryfa, M. Krajewski.

The Board of Directors: Reverend Pius Pietka, S.D.S., Reverend Bernard R. Ciesielski, O.C.D., Ben Grochowski, Julia Tolpa, Mitchel Tukaj, Casimir Marianski, Emilia Subartowicz, Lucian Markiewicz.

The Indiana Division has made many valuable contributions to the Polish cause; it has efficiently helped in the one-million-drive, it has participated in the action of bringing in immigrants after World War II, and was instrumental in originating the Katyn Massacre investigation.

Lately, it has created a special Committee, headed by Thomas Sech, for the purpose of organizing commemorative celebrations of the Millennium of Christianity of the Polish people.

Delegates at the 1966 Convention of the Indiana Division in front of the Carmelite Grotto in Munster, Indiana.

The History of the "Polish Home" Association

1600 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

GARY, INDIANA

Delegates and representatives of all Polish organizations in the region of Gary and affiliated with Group 127 of the Polish National Alliance organized the association of "The Polish Home". The first directorate consisted of the following: Vincent Tomaszewski Leonard Wyszynski, John Wasilewski, Frank Olszewski, Lawrence Naspinski, Andrew Chmielik, Helen Spychalski, Angela Kijewski, Peter Pisarski, John Kobylanski, Francis Bilski, Frank Hojnacki, Leo Jaskula, Zdzislaw Albrecht and Joseph Kusmierz.

Through the efforts of the above-mentioned directorate, a charter of incorporation was obtained on March 31, 1923. During the presidency of Vincent Tomaszewski, Clement Murzyn, Peter Plecinski and John Neiman, future plans of the organization were set in motion. Due to the depression, the plans of the organization came to a standstill and could not be realized.

April 15, 1943, became a historical date in the association of "The Polish Home". This was the date of a rebirth and expansion of the organization. In May, 1943, the members of the Executive Committee, Joseph Krasoczka, President; Ignatius Wozniak, Vice-President; Joseph Stryczek, Secretary; Stanley Niepokoj, Financial Secretary; Josephine Hrabota, Treasurer and Francis Spychalski, as their legal counselor, purchased property for the organization located at 1600 Pennsylviania Street, in Gary, Indiana.

In answer to an appeal to help finance the project made by the Executive Board, life members contributed $1,600.00. Due to the efforts of Lawrence Naspinski, various members and organizations contributed over $2,000.00. Various social benefits helped raise additional funds so that over $7,000.00 was made available for redevelopment of the property for the first "Polish Home".

The first banquet marking the purchase of the property which was to become the first "Polish Home", took place November 20, 1943, in the White Eagle Hall at 1650 Maryland Street.

The Polonia, now having a base for its operation, became the gathering place for the various Polonian organizations. More organizations could not make use of the building because it was too small. It was decided that the building should be enlarged so a building committee was selected on the 25th of April, 1948, which consisted of the following: John Bajgrowicz, Alexander Swiatek and Joseph Rutkiewicz.

In January, 1953, a new Executive Committee was organized which consisted of the following: William B. Baran, President; Joseph Rutkiewicz, Vice-President; Mitchell Tukaj, Secretary; Alexander Swiatek, Treasurer; John Bajgrowicz, Ladislaus Nawrocki and Stanley Jagiello were elected auditors.

First Row: H. Markiewicz; J. Bajgrowicz, Marshall; M. Tukaj, Secretary; J. Rutkiewicz, President; L. Markiewicz, Vice-President; Wm. B. Baran, Treasurer; Atty. Vitold Reey, Legal Advisor; A. Primer, Delegate.
Second Row: J. Gajewski, L. Jaskula, B. Jawor, E. Depta, A. Subartowiczowicz, S. Kruszynski, T. Dabrowski, W. Nawrocki, Auditor.

A new building committee was selected consisting of the following: Joseph Hrabota, President; Joseph Rutkiewicz, Stanley Jagiello, Leo Jaskula and Mitchell Ogiego.

Various Polish organizations gave financial aid to the project. One of the first organizations and also the most recent in the Gary area was "The Polish Club of the New Emigration" to offer financial assistance.

The dedication and erection of the Memorial plaque took place on the 27th of December, 1953, after which the builders, Chester Wasilewski-Wallace, presented the keys to the building.

The ceremony of dedication was conducted by Very Rev. Msgr. Louis Michalski, pastor of St. Hedwig's Church in Gary. Msgr. Michalski praised the efforts of the Polonia and in the name of the Church Committee gave a donation of $100.00.

On April 25, 1954, the banquet was held, attended for the first time in the history of the Gary Polonia, by the Lt. Governor of the State, who at that time was Harold Handley.

On March 27, 1955, Judge Anthony Roszkowski presided at the installation banquet, at which the Lake County officials contributed $1,120.00 to the Polish Home. Ever since the Home is of service to all organizations, to their work, to all national and traditional festivities.

On April 28, 1963, after all debts and interest were paid, the Polish Home Association enjoyed the "Mortgage Burning" ceremony.

We turn our thankful thoughts to those who were called to their eternal reward and who had helped in the development of the Polish Home Association. We honor their memory!

Present Officers: Joseph Rutkiewicz, President; Lucian Markiewicz, Vice-President, Mitchell Tukaj, Secretary; William B. Baran, Treasurer; John Bajgrowicz, Marshal; Atty. Vitold Reey, Legal Counselor; Walter Nawrocki and Mitchell Ogiego, Auditors.

OFFICERS OF DISTRICT XV, POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE
MEN'S DIVISION and WOMEN'S DIVISION

Seated, left to right: Mrs. Janet Rzepka, Vice-President; Mrs. Lottie (Wawrzyniak) Kubiak, Lady Commissioner; Mrs. Jean Balon, Treasurer; and Mrs. Genevieve Krane, Secretary.
Standing, left to right: Mrs. Virginia Kandzierski, Mrs. Loraine Ziemba, Directors; Mr. Alex Dlugosz, Sports Director; Mr. Thaddeus Wachel, Commissioner; Mr. Stanley Ostrowski, Secretary; Mrs. Josephine Kolanko and Miss Jean Hodupski, Directors.

DISTRICT XV and WOMEN'S DIVISION of DISTRICT XV
POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE

The Polish National Alliance, founded in 1880, is considered today the largest Fraternal Organization for Americans of Polish descent. Along with the beneficial insurance features, the PNA is a social and civic organization whose objects are aimed at fostering and preserving Polish traditions, customs and culture. Its operations extend throughout 33 states and the District of Columbia, maintaining 1,458 subordinate Groups (Lodges) throughout this territory, which is divided into 16 Districts.

On a local level, each Group is represented in its respective Council located in its city and then grouped into various Districts, or Circuits, as they are sometimes called. Northern Indiana, reaching south as far as Indianapolis, is known as District XV, incorporating 7 Councils, 33 Groups, representing over 8,000 members. Each District is led by two Commissioners, one for the Men's Division and one for the Women's Division. These are elected for a four-year term, at the National Quadrennial Conventions. The duties of these Commissioners are numerous and varied. They serve on the Adivisory Board of the Alliance College which is located in Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania. Meetings of the Advisory Board are held several times a year, and take the 32 Commissioners all over the country, depending on what problems or other business is to be resolved or transacted. They are invited to meetings of the Groups and Councils in their District, helping with Membership problems, taking the oath from newly elected officers, and attending many Jubilee Banquets, Youth Reviews and other activities.

Although the Polish National Alliance was founded in 1880, each District has its own date of origin. District XV was organized and accepted by the Delegates at the National Quadrennial Convention held in Detroit, Michigan, in September, 1939. Many fine Commissioners, both men and women, led the District to its strength and growth. In the Men's Division, Joseph Krupa, Wallace Fabisiewicz, Joseph Ostrowski, John Ziemba (presently National Director of the

PNA), and currently, Thaddeus Wachel, have contributed much to growth in membership and prestige of the District.

The Executive Officers for the year 1966 in the Men's Division, include Thaddeus Wachel, Commissioner; Stanley Ostrowski, Secretary; Louis Wrona, Treasurer; Alex Dlugosz, Athletic Director; and John Dlugosz, District Organizer.

Commissioner Thaddeus Wachel received his training in PNA during the early thirties, when the "Boy Scout" movement was one of the main youth activities. His administration has shown the fullest cooperation with the Women's Division, with emphasis on youth activities and membership drives.

The Secretary, Stanley Ostrowski of Gary, a product of the new immigration, has shown a great devotion to duty, and willingness to sacrifice time and energy for the sake of the Polish National Alliance.

The Treasurer, Louis Wrona, from Hammond, through years of office holding in Groups and Council 49, has contributed greatly with thorough knowledge of organizational work and sound advice of an "'old timer".

The Athletic Director, Alex Dlugosz of South Bend, brought athletic activities and youth work to prominence in the District. Annual golf and bowling tournaments under his capable leadership have been always very successful, and have contributed greatly to the growth of the PNA, especially in new membership.

District XV was very fortunate in obtaining the services of its most capable Organizer, John Dlugosz of South Bend. His record has no equal in the District's existence. He is considered at this time one of the top PNA National Organizers.

In connection with the Women's Division of District XV, the first Lady Commissioner elected in 1939 was Mrs. Valeria Mackowiak, who called her first election meeting in the District in April, 1940. The officers serving with here were; the late Helen Spychalski, Vice-President; the late Constance Czarnecki, Secretary; and Bernice Rudzinski, Treasurer. The Lady Commissioners, who also served as Presidents of the Women's Division, following Mrs. Mackowiak, were: the late Michaline Wysocki, the late Constance Czarnecki, Victoria Basinski, and currently, Lottie (Wawrzyniak) Kubiak. These ladies and their officers have all distinguished themselves in many humanitarian endeavors, principally in Red Cross work during the War, and later in the support of relief work for the people of Poland. They not only donated their time and energy but helped create funds, making generous donations to such worthy causes as War Relief Organizations ($300.00). The Alliance College received over $600.00 toward their building funds and $11000.00 toward furnishing a room in the girls' Dormitory; Polonia Youth Center in Crown Point received a donation of $500.00 in 1958 and another $100.00 toward the purchase of a piano in 1959. A donation of $100.00 was sent to the children's orphanage in Poland, contributions were made to the Glen Park Polish American Home in Gary, as well as many other local and national charities and charitable organizations.

It was the Women's Division of District XV which was instrumental in getting the Alliance College to accept a resolution and make it a Coed University, thus getting it to be among the accredited coeducational colleges.

One of the more elaborate activities sponsored jointly by District XV and the Women's Division is the "Cotillion", during which a District Queen is selected. The first one to win this honor was Miss Phyllis Raczkowski of East Chicago. The 1965 Queen was Miss Darlene Bara of Gary, who had a chance to participate in the National Miss PNA contest held in Washington, D. C. in November, 1965, where she came in as the Runner-Up. Another annual big event in the Women's Division Calendar is the selection of the "Mother of the Year". Mrs. Julia Malak of Group 3134, Gary, won the distinction in 1964 and Mrs. Helen Zatorski of Group 114, Hammond, is the title holder for 1965.

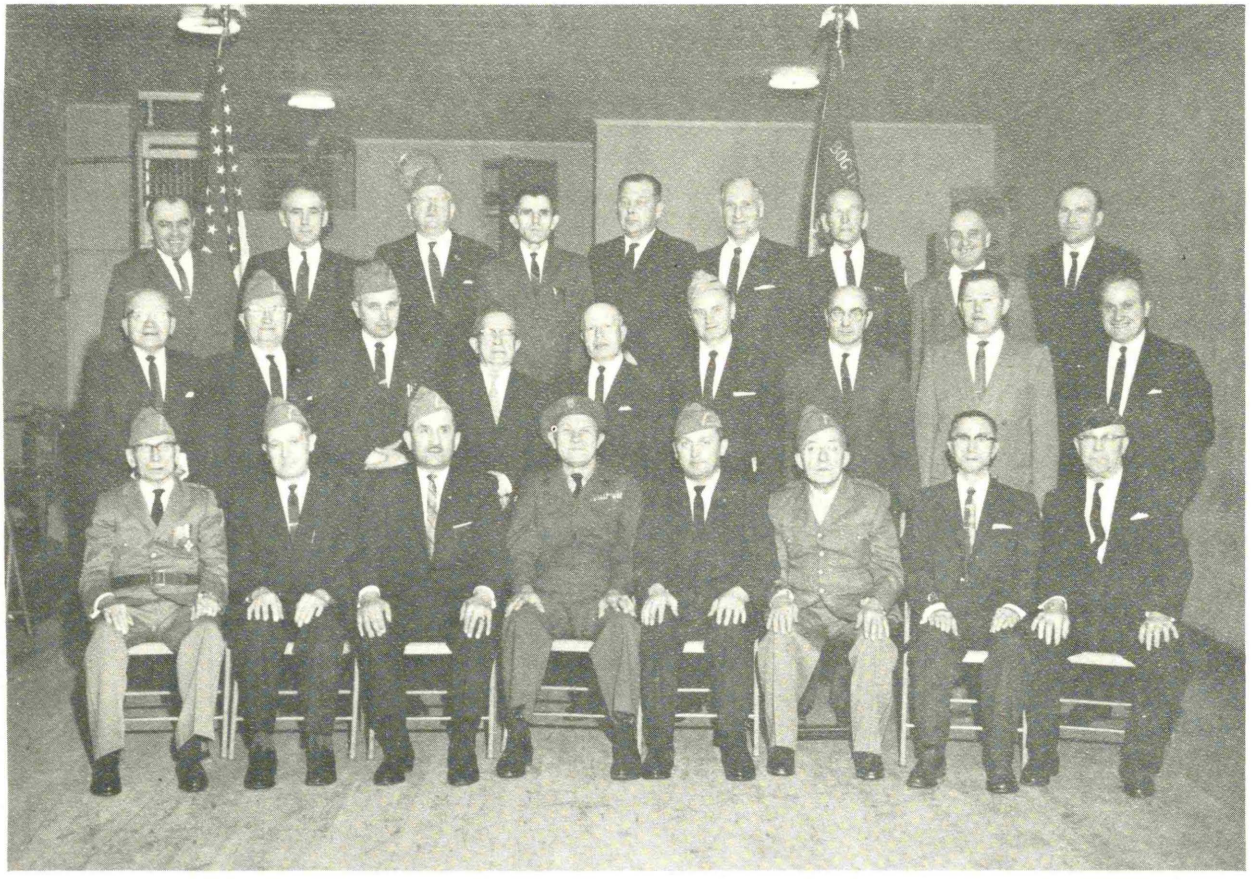
The present officers of the Women's Division in District XV are: the Lady Commissioner, Lottie (Wawrzyniak) Kubiak, who is also the President; Janet Rzepka, Vice-President; Jean Balon, Treasurer; Genevieve Krane, Secretary. Serving as Directors are: Virginia Kandzierski, South Bend; Loraine Ziemba, Gary; Josephine Kolanko, Hammond; and Jean Hodupski, East Chicago. All af these officers are active not only in their own local PNA groups, but also in many other community organizations. Their knowledge and experience have contributed strength, growth and prestige to the Women's Division in our District.

Both, the Men's Division and the Women's Division of District XV support and are active to the fullest extent, in the Polish American Congress, State of Indiana Division; the Polonia Youth Center; and the Glen Park Polish American Home. Jointly they sponsor many outstanding youth activities, social events, athletic tournaments, etc., and above all, support the activities of all the Groups and Councils in District XV, the Polish Language Radio Programs in Gary and Hammond and the Polish daily newspapers.

The next "Cotillion" sponsored by the Women's Division and the District XV Men's Division will be held on Saturday, October 8, 1966 at the American Legion Hall, 140th and Alder Street in East Chicago, Indiana.

POLISH AMERICAN VETERANS OF AMERICA

Post No. 15, Gary, Indiana



In 1917, when it was announced that Polish forces were being organized, in Gary Indiana, 50 young men left their home joining together in these forces to fight and obtain freedom for Poland, land of their ancestors.

The organized Polish Army in France, under the leadership of General Joseph Haller, came to Poland in the year 1919 standing shoulder to shoulder with young forces of the Polish Army entering a bitter battle with the Bolsheviks.

On August 15, 1920, a battle at Warsaw, known as the "Miracle on the Vistula" the Bolsheviks (Russians) were defeated shamelessly. With the war ended and after the signing of a Peace Treaty at Riga, victorious soldiers of the General Joseph Haller army disbanned making their separate ways – some returning to the U.S.A. to take up where they left off – others remained in Poland, some as future citizens of the Country, others as Heroes to rest forever in the land of their ancestors.

In February of 1921, those who returned to Gary, Indiana, came on an idea of organizing an association to be known as the Polish Veterans of General Joseph Haller's Army. Frank Bilski was the first commander. Application for a charter was made in Gary, Indiana and ratified by the National Headquarters, which assigned the corporate title of Polish Army Veteran's Association, Post No. 15.

In 1949, the membership grew with migrants to the United States who were not only veterans of the World War I, but also of World War II, and veterans of the Polish Underground Armies. All of these were found working in harmony for the betterment of the world, aid to all veterans, schools and churches, and as is in our hearts For the Greater Glory of God and Country, in their work enjoying the support of both the Polish Clergy and the Polish population. Officers for the Millennium year of Post 15 are as follows: Stephen Kruszynski, Commander; Edward Depta, Vice-Commander; Casimir Braoska, Adjutant; Florian Duzek, Financial Secretary; Peter Peka and Leonard Maciejewski, Flag Bearers; Reverend Bernard Ciesielski, Chaplain.

Members of Post 15 in Gary, vets of 1st World War: Franciszek Bilski, Jakob Benedykt, Franciszek Jurkowski, Jan Konieczny, Wladyslaw Makowski, Leonard Maciejewski, Jan Malicki, Franciszek Mrozek, Stanislaw Piekarz, Wiktor Rysz, Wojciech Rzad, Andrzej Tomaszewski.

Second World War: Kazimierz Brozoska, Florian Dluzak, Bronislaw Jawor, Stefan Kruszynski, Lucjan Markiewicz, Piotr Pelka, Albert Mastalski, Stanislaw Petryka, Stanislaw Polak, Heronim Piatek, Kazimierz Pukownik, Feliks Sawicki, Stefania Swiatek, Mieczyslaw Tukaj, Edward Depta, Marian Gliniecki, Andrzej Lachowicz, Wladyslaw Wyszynski, Mieczyslaw Mazur, Jozef Hrabota, Michal Jaremczuk, Jozef Gajewski, Jan Gorski, Reverand Bernard Ciesielski.

In Memoriam: Jan Skora, Jan Czerwinski, Stanislaw Dynakowski, Jan Pietrzak, Franciszek Frydrych, Boleslaw Kaplan, Pawel Wilczynski, Ignacy Roszkowski, Stanislaw Malocha, Stanislaw Kudryjan, Wojciech Zdel, Ignacy Gwozdz, Aleksander Chlopek, Kazimierz Jarmusz, Franciszek Gaska, Franciszek Zielinski, Jozef Kocon, Walerian Pisarski, Stanislaw Kmiec, Leon Pomianowski, Stanislaw Olszewski.

POLISH ARMY VETERANS OF AMERICA
POST # 15 AUXILIARY, GARY, INDIANA

Seated: Helen Lysek, Kazmiera Hrabota, Zofia Czerwien, Apolonia Czuprinska, Anna Zimmerman, Phyllis Ausenbaugh, Anna Powenska, Mrs. Bajgrowicz. Standing: Wanda Jawor, Isabel Bilski, Antonina Maciejewska, Victoria Kulisz, Katarzyna Polak, Bronislawa Dluzak, Maryanna Laskowicz, Phyllis Dossitt.

The Auxiliary was organized in Gary on December 16, 1934, its aim being to help the invalid Veterans, to extend care over the Veterans' widows and children, to collect funds for these activities by originating and participating in the annual Tag Day (Dzien Blawatka).

The initiative to organize the Auxiliary came from the following: Martha Maciejewski, Varonica Filipowicz, Bernice Pomianowski, Helen Piekarz and Stephany Konieczny.

The met for the first time at the American Legion Hall of Mr. Jarosz and registered 27 charter members, the Post itself being represented by the commandant Leo Pomianowski, accompanied by Leonard Maciejewski and Frank Jurkowski. The Auxiliary obtained its number "83", and the following were the elected officers: Martha Maciewjewski, President; Clementine Dolato, Vice President; Bernice Pomianowski, Financial Secretary; Veronica Filipowicz, Recording Secretary; Stephanie Konieczny, Treasurer, K. Dombrowski, Z. Siemion, and Z. Truty, Directors.

After only four years since the Auxiliary s inception, World War 11 broke out. Inspired by the appeals of their National President, Miss E. Wisla, the ladies began collecting funds for the Red Cross, clothing for Displaced Persons, and were the first in the state of Indiana to send packages to the Polish prisoners of war in Germany. They initiated the sending of packages to the American boys in service and the letter-writing to them, and also encouraged the buying of War Stamps and Freedom Bonds.

The Auxiliary was of very efficient help to the famous Polish airman Baranowski, to the Polish hospital in Penley, England, to the Paderewski Hospital, to the Children Fund, and presently is very active in supporting the home of the Polish Veterans in Chicago, Illinois.

Members of the Auxiliary visit the sick members of the Post at the hospitals, send them Christmas packages, and in case of death participate in all funeral services. They also sponsor many national activities and try to be of special help to the needy Veteran.

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

District 3, State of Indiana

Joanna Zotkiewicz
State Chairman

Polish Women's Alliance of America was founded May 22, 1898, for the purpose of creating an organization in the United States of America which would unite all women of Polish extraction in national and social work. The Motto is "God and Our Country" and its Patron Our Lady of Czestochowa, Queen of the Polish Crown.

The Emblem of the P.W.A. of A. is an inscription of the Polish name "Zwiazek Polek w Ameryce" across the top, with the English equivalent "Polish Women's Alliance of America" across the bottom; that portion of the emblem between the inscription presents two women representing Poland and America, with their right hands clasped, over a shield which consists of an American Flag and a White Eagle on a field amaranth in color depicting the amity of the two countries, subsiding under the rays of the national liberty. The P. W. A. of A. colors are azure-blue and gold.

The Home office is located in Chicago, Illinois. The charter, obtained from the Department of Insurance of the state of Illinois, grants the organization the authority to insure the lives of its members and found groups for that purpose under the general and confirmed name of the Polish Women's Alliance of America.

It shall be the object of the P.W.A. of A. to foster a permanent national spirit, preserve Polish ideals in the midst of the younger generation by cultivating within it a knowledge of Polish history and literature and impressing upon it the need for maintaining a constant relationship with Poland, thus developing within it the cultural values that inhere in the Polish people; to protect the honor and rights of Polish womanhood and endeavor to preserve national esteem; to help them in the acquisition of a higher education, and to encourage them to take active part in the promotion of good government in this country and to join in all national evdeavors and celebrations. The object of the P.W.A. of A. is to afford mutual aid to the members thereof, and to grant them benefits. This to be accomplished by founding Groups, Garlands and Councils.

The first state chairman was Stanislawa Wawrzon duly installed at the VIII National Convention held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in September, 1910, holding office until September, 1916. From September, 1916, to September, 1935, Antonina Hon was in office. From September, 1935, to 1939 Bertha Breclaw was in office. From September 1939, to September 1955 Sophie Jerzyk was in office. From September, 1955, to September, 1959, Helen Sambor was state chairman. From September 1959 to the present, Joanna Zotkiewicz has been State Chairman and a representative of the P. W. A. of A. for District 3. The District is composed of two councils; Council 11 of South Bend, Indiana, Elenore Mackowski is president and Council 21 of Hammond, Indiana of which Wanda Groth is president, and the following groups: Group 21 South Bend charter dated February 26, 1902, 1966 president Lottie Ogorek; Group 37 Whiting, charter dated January 23, 1904, 1966 president Angeline Stanish; Group 65 South Bend charter dated April 24, 1906, 1966 president Elenore Frankiewicz; Group 77 Hammond charter dated March 31, 1908. 1966 president Anna Zych; Group 81 Gary charter dated May 26, 1908, 1966 president Clementine Dolata; Group 122 Indiana Harbor charter dated May 20, 1911, 1966 president Joanna Zotkiewicz; Group 129 South Bend charter dated December 19, 1911, 1966 president Mary Napieralski; Group 132 East Chicago charter dated February 20, 1912, 1966 president Helen Pienta; Group 201 South Bend charter dated November 17, 1914, 1966 president Regina Rozewicz; Group 305 South Bend charter dated May 4, 1920, 1966 president Angela Chrustowski; Group 329 Michigan City charter dated February 1, 1922, 1966 president Mary Putz; Group 335 South Bend charter dated August 15, 1922, 1966 president Catherine Binkowski; Group 366 Tolleston charter dated April 24, 1923, 1966 president Helen Olszewski; Group 378 La Porte charter dated June 1, 1923, 1966 president Helen Szczygiel; Group 429 East Chicago charter dated November 5, 1924, 1966 president Helen Sambor; Group 444 Gary, charter dated February 17, 1925, 1966 president Isabel Hojnacki; Group 562 Gary, charter dated March 13, 1929, 1966 president Mary Lazarz; Group 749 Hammond charter dated July 20, 1939, 1966 president Victoria Hanus; Group 778 New Chicago charter dated August 7, 1945, 1966 president Anna Kocanski; Group 815 Gary charter dated March 1, 1964.

To date adult membership totals 4399 and juveniles 1721. Regular conferences are held with the financial secretaries of the groups. A biennial state convention is held as well as a state youth convention every two years. At the youth convention sessions awards are presented for essays submitted by young members. Children from all groups participate in a contest of Polish Dances. Trophies are awarded at the conclusion of the Youth Convention.

Annual membership drive awards are presented at the January council meetings. Once every year, a special meeting is held and such topics as benefit insurance and structure of the organization are studied for the promotion of better fraternalism.

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

Council 21 - District 3

On November 18, 1932, Helen Sambor, at that time vice-president of the Polish Women's Alliance of America, called a meeting, inviting officers of neighboring Groups to organize a Council for the purpose of promoting mutual aid and support; to protect the rights of the Groups and the members thereof; to surround the Garlands with care; to encourage effort for the growth of the P.W.A. of A.; and, in brief, to engage in matters which it may deem necessary or beneficial to the welfare of the organization. The Council is to make arrangements for the appropriate celebrations within its circuit of the holidays prescribed by the Constitution, and to arrange commemorations of anniversaries and organization festivities, particularly for the children; to encourage and foster adult education by means of essays and lectures in such branches of knowledge as: history, literature, economics, hygiene, parliamentary law. Each group has the right to one delegate for every 25 members or a fraction thereof.

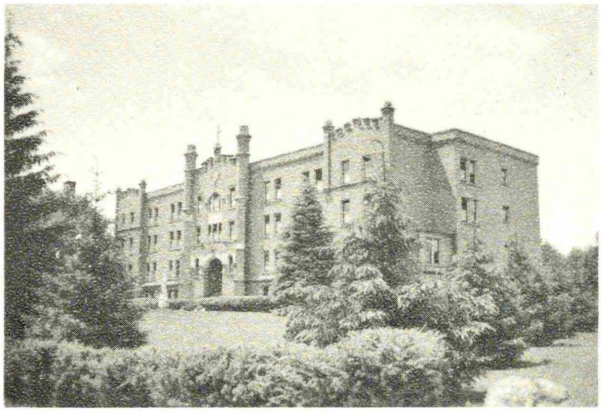
Present at the meeting were: M. Karmilowicz and J. Grochowalska from Group 122, K. Dec and J. Zotkiewicz from Group 128, B. Breclaw, M. Breclaw, and H. Drezynek from Group 132, A. Krupinska and H. Ludkus from Group 408, H. Koscielniak, Z. Surman and B. Dobosz from Group 429, M. Krasowska and H. Sambor from Group 439.

Helen Sambor was chairman of the meeting and Bertha Dobosz was secretary. The administration of the council at that first meeting consisted of: President, B. Breclaw; J. Grochowalska , vice president; B. Dobosz, secretary; J. Zotkiewicz, treasurer. Past Presidents of the council are: B. Breclaw Group 132; Sophie Jerzyk Group 77; Caroline Pikul Group 156; Julia Tolpa Group 81; Anna Zych Group 77; Joanna Zotkiewicz Group 128; Helen Zielinski Group 81; Sophie Buzinski Group 429.

Fifteen groups belong to the council at present. Adult members total 3262 and juveniles 1532. Meetings are held quarterly on the fourth Thursday of January, April, July and October.

Bertha Breclaw was the first president of the adult Halka Chorus and Helen Zielinski director. A biennial Debutante Ball is held and all proceeds are used for scholarships and to date $4725.00 was awarded to 24 young members to further their education. Lessons in Polish dancing and singing are held regularly and special programs of verses and recitations are presented yearly at Installation of officers, Mothers' Day Programs, Youth conventions, State conventions, Christmas celebrations, and outings. At the April meeting a traditional "Swieconka" preceeds the business session. In May a "Queen of May" is honored, (The title is acquired through a membership drive.); a "Mother of the Year" is chosen, and serving of refreshments conclude the festivities. The council takes an active part in all national, patriotic, and religious celebrations and anniversaries. To date $4289.38 was donated to various causes and charities. To honor Our Patron, Our Lady of Czestochowa, a yearly pilgrimage is made to a chosen Grotto, the day beginning with a Holy Mass, Meditation, and closing with Benediction. All committees are appointed by the president of the council.

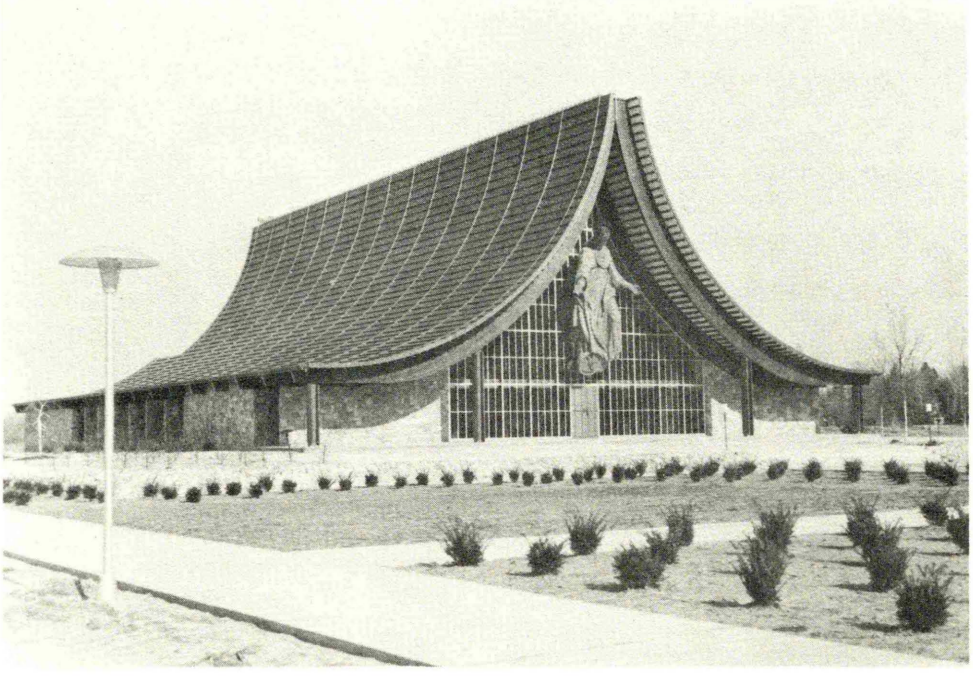
1966 Administration is: Joanna Zotkiewicz, state chairman; Wanda Groth, council president; Wanda Szlanda, vice-president; Eva Kwasny secretary; Eugenia Kubas, treasurer; Helen Zielinski, Garland Supervisor; Janet Majcher and Helen Lewis, sergeant-at-arms.



THE PRIESTS AND LAY ALUMNI OF THE ORCHARD LAKE INSTITUTIONS JOIN IN CELEBRATING THE MILLENIUM

The history of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary reaches back to the late seventies of the nineteenth century, when the American bishops petitioned the Holy Father, Pope Pius IX, for priests to care for the newly-arriving immigrants from Poland. Pope Leo XIII's formal approval in 1879 to found the Seminary, and Bishop Casper Borgess's permission in 1884 to build the Seminary in Detroit, his diocess, were brought to full fruition by the undaunted efforts of the heroic founder, Father Joseph Dabrowski.

The specific purpose for which the Seminary was founded is the same today as it was almost eighty one years ago – to educate future priests who would be specially prepared to minister to American Catholics of Polish descent. Consistent with its purpose, the Seminary has trained over two thousand priests for service in almost every diocese in the United States. There are at present, in the Diocese of Gary 33 priests Alumni of the Polish Seminary at Orchard Lake.



THE LADIES AUXILIARY

OF THE ORCHARD LAKE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Chapter X, Hammond, Indiana

On May 23, 1957, one hundred and seven women, representing nine neighboring Polish parishes, met at Our Lady of Czestochowa parish hall, located at Morris and Tapper sts., in Hammond, Indiana, at the invitation of Rev. Joseph Zobel, Pastor; Rev. Anthony A. Balczun, assistant Pastor; Janet Krysinski and Joanna Zotkiewicz, co-organizers. Present also were: Rev. W. Filipowicz, Rector of Orchard Lake, Michigan, Seminary, Mrs. S. Wisniewska, vice-president of the Polish Roman Catholic Union, Mrs. A. Zych, member of the Revisions Committee Polish Women's Alliance of America, Dr. E. Bartkowiak of Chicago, Mr. Francis Demps, vice-president of the State of Indiana Alumni Assn., the Reverends: R. Wojcicki J. Zobel, A.A. Balczun, L. Michalski, L. Lukaszewski, H. Krysinski, T. Plawecki and L. Madejczyk. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Rev. Anthony A. Balczun.

A humanitarian organization, the society was to be known as THE LADIES AUXILIARY of the ORCHARD LAKE ALUMNI, CHAPTER X, Hammond, Indiana. Any Catholic woman of Polish origin or Polish sympathy may become a member by paying annual dues. SILVER membership is obtained by a single donation of $25.00; a GOLDEN membership, the donation of $50.00. The purpose is to support the SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary at Orchard Lake: by prayers for God's Blessing on its work; by fostering vocations to the priesthood; by encouraging students to enroll for study at Orchard Lake; and by providing financial aid to help maintain and expand the work of the Seminary.

The first corps of officers, installed by Reverend W. Filipowicz, Rector of Orchard Lake Seminary were:

Chaplain Reverend Anthony A. Balczun, Mrs. V. Zotkiewicz, President of the Chapter and the following vice-presidents: Mrs. M. Krupa from Sacred Heart Parish, Tolleston, Mrs. M. Rymarowicz, St. Stanislaus Parish, East Chicago, Mrs. K. Hapak, St. Adalbert Parish, Whiting, Mrs. H. Krygier, St. John Cantius Parish, Indiana Harbor, Mrs. A. Lukaszewski, St. Joseph Parish, East Chicago, Mrs. M. Zbikowska, St. Casimer Parish, Hammond, Mrs. W. Pinkowska, Our Lady of Czestochowa, Hammond, Mrs. S. Zielinski, St. Hedwig Parish, Gary, Mrs. M. Lazarz, Holy Family of Nazareth Parish, Gary, Recording secretary, Mrs. M. Hoyda, Whiting, Financial secretary, Mrs. J. Krysinski, Hammond, Treasurer, Mrs. A. Zych, Hammond.

Meetings are held quarterly on the third Tuesday of February, May, August and November, at the latter meeting Holy Mass precedes the business session; yearly reports are presented; and election of officers are held.

The following privileges are extended: each member has her intentions included in a special Mass said daily at the Seminary; is remembered in daily morning and evening prayers of all students; and in time of death, each member is benefited by a public recitation of prayers by the Chaplain and members assembled in the funeral parlor; Chapter representation at the funeral Mass; and the offering of a Requiem High Mass for the repose of her soul. The Chapter sponsors a yearly fund raising project and to date $19,500.00 was contributed towards the Seminary. Membership totals 1296 and 134 members are deceased. The Auxiliary celebrates its Feast on the 15th of August, or on the Sunday nearest to it, with the offering of a Solemn High Mass, procession to the Grotto of the Seminary at Orchard Lake, Michigan. The Pilgrimages are jointly arranged by all Chapters.

Present officers of the Chapter are: Honorary Chaplain, Reverend J. Zobel; Chaplains: Reverend Anthony A. Balczun, Reverend John Murzyn, Reverend Joseph Buczyna. Mrs. V. Zotkiewicz, President of the Chapter, Cedar Lake, Indiana. Vice-Presidents: Miss L. Jasiak, Sacred Heart Parish, Gary, Indiana, Mrs. J. Kras, St. Stanislaus Parish, East Chicago, Indiana, Mrs. W. Szlanda, St. Adalbert Parish, Whiting, Indiana, Mrs. A. Prusiecki, St. John Cantius Parish, Indiana Harbor, Mrs. A. Lukaszewski, St. Joseph Parish, East Chicago, Indiana, Mrs. S. Lewandowski, St. Casimer Parish, Hammond, Indiana, Mrs. H. Schilling, Our Lady of Czestochowa, Hammond, Indiana, Mrs. S. Zielinski, St. Hedwigs Parish, Gary, Indiana, Mrs. S. Bilunas, Holy Family of Nazareth Parish, Gary, Indiana, Mrs. E. Subartowicz, Assumption of the B.V.M. Parish, New Chicago, Indiana, Mrs. L. Miklusak, financial secretary, Hammond, Indiana, Mrs. E. Kwasny, recording secretary, East Chicago, Indiana, Mrs. S. Lewandowski, treasurer, Hammond, Indiana.

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE
GENERAL THADDEUS KOSCIUSKO LODGE 912

In 1906 the United States Steel Company, started to build what was destined to become the largest steel producing plant in the world. At the same time, the City of Gary was founded.

This brought an influx of people, and soon Gary was to become the melting pot of steel and nationalities, the latter of which comprised a large group of Poles.

They began to gather in small local halls and on November 19, 1907, organized the first group which they called Tow Sw. Kazimierza, Krwlewicza Nr. 912, Polish National Alliance of America, with headquarters in Chicago, Illinois. The first officers were: F. Janocki, President; S. Gorniewicz, Vice President; J. Kosinski, Financial Secretary; J. Siemiaszko, Treasurer. The treasury was in the amount of $22.00.

In 1923 and in 1942 two more groups joined the No. 912 Group. On March 2, 1944, it was decided to change the Groups' name to General Thaddeus Kosciuszko. This combination of Groups increased the membership to 140. At this time cash on hand was $310.00, in addition to $600 in U.S. Savings Bonds and $100 in Polish Bonds.

Group 912 P.N.A. has been very active in helping Polish Orphans, Polish Veterans and displaced Poles in various parts of the world. The Group has taken part in a variety of civic and political activities in the city of Gary and the state of Indiana.

Group 912 numbers over 600 adult members and more than 130 children at the present time, and has ammassed a treasury of more than $10,000 in various funds.

Officers of Lodge 912 P.N.A. - 1966: Edward Depta, President; Genevieve Lis, Vice - President; Casimer Brzoska, Vice President; Ann Zimmerman, Secretary; Joseph Mytyk, Financial Secretary; Marian Sumidlowski, Treasurer; Leon Jaskula, Sargent-of-Arms; Phyllis Ausenbaugh, Caretaker-of-the-Sick.

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE

Lodge 2106, Gary, Indiana

From a widely dispersed Polish population, Mrs. Boleslawa Menczynska formed the nucleus of 45 women under the name "WOLNA POLSKA," group 2106 P.N.A. (Polish National Alliance) in her home at 1941 Massachusettes, Gary, Indiana; January 25, 1920.

The prime purpose of this organization was Insurance protection. This proved insufficient for the ambitions of the members concerned about social problems of their neighbors. Hence, in the years that followed, group 2106 has distinguished itself in many money raising social functions and generous contributions to many forms of charity.

These are only a few: Adoption of 30 war orphans in Europe, aid to Polish boys scouts, purchase of United States bonds and Polish bonds, food packages, two tons of clothing to war torn Poland, knitted seaters and socks for soldiers, aid to American Red Cross and Polish White Cross, contributions to Y.M.C.A. aid to Polish veterans, monetary aid to Generals' Haller and Sikorski fund, yearly Christmas parties and excursions for children, purchase of a stained glass window for St. Hedwig's Church, funds to members to safeguard their insurance during the despair of the depression, and supporting folk dancing classes and theatre.

Boleslawa Menczynska organized four groups in Gary for the Polish National Alliance namely: 2106; 2324; 2389; 2431, and became the first woman-director P.N.A. Circuit 15 and first woman vice-president of Council 127.

Past Presidents of Group 2106: S. Szymkowska, Stefania Konieczna, Zofja Dorsch, L. Ziemba, Klementyna Dolata, Jadwiga Dziuba and Jadwiga Dziuba.

Presently there are 192 adult and 82 juvenile members.

Delegates to the National were: St. Szymkowska three times: Boston, Massachusetts, Buffalo, New York, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Stefania Konieczna delegate to convention Cleveland, Ohio.

After 1000 years let us hope we can all continue to keep our faith and hope that Christianity may continue for thousands of years.

Officers of Ledge 2106, P.N.A.: Boleslawa Menczynska, president; Jadwiga Dziuba, vice-president; St. Szymkowska, Financial Secretary; Zofja Dorsch, Recording Secretary; Leokadja Ziemba, treasurer.

THE HISTORY OF THE P.N.A. SILVER BELL CLUB OF GARY

The P.N.A. Silver Bell Club of Gary was organized in 1925, when twenty-six young, sports-minded men banded together to form an organization. These men were strictly a neighborhood group, living in the densely populated area located east of Broadway, between 11th and 21st Avenues. The center of this community was the St. Hedwig Church, predominatly consisting of people of Polish and Slavic origin.

This group's primary objective, at that time, was participation in various competitive sports of which boxing, baseball and basketball were the major ones.

At the first meeting the following were elected officers of the Silver Bell Club: Leo Korwek, President; Bennie Pinkowski, Vice-President; Joseph Krol, Recording Secretary and Dr. Thad Brudzinski, Financial Secretary.

To assure themselves of a lasting unity, they became part of a national fraternal and insurance organization, "The Polish National Alliance of America." The Gary Club was the 2,365th group to join the Alliance. To distinguish this lodge from a mere number, the membership chose to be charted by the state and was named the "P.N.A. Silver Bell Club group 2365".

As the years went by, the Club began to expand with additional members and the addition of other sports, including golf and bowling. For many years, the club excelled in practically every participating sport it had sponsored. It soon gained the distinction of being "The Greatest in Town". The Club became very popular and the membership continued to swell. It became apparent that a need existed for additional rules, not only to stem the upsurge, but also to revise the purpose and the activities of the club in this transitional era. On September 12, 1955, amendments to the constitution and by-laws were revised and adopted.

The newly revised by-laws place a limit on the membership to 400 and only males up to the age of forty-five may qualify as new members. The purpose of the Club, as revised, provides for the following. "To promote welfare of our brothers and our fellow-men"; "To participate in social, athletic and civic activities of our community".

During the forty-one years of existence, the Club has come a long way. In 1950 the Club had purchased from the United States Steel Company, the former "Gleason Welfare Center", a building located at 15th and Connecticut Street. These are the premises it now occupies. The Club has produced many champions. Among them is a former World's middleweight boxing champ and a professional golfer. Many of the members have been or now are in public office. The list includes two mayors, two county commissioners, one county councilman and one member of the advisory board.

In conformity with its purpose, the Club earmarks hundreds of dollars annually to contribute to various charitable organizations in the City of Gary. Among the intra-club activities are: annual installation of officers banquet, annual memorial services for the deceased members, sports activity, annual club picnic, and annual Christmas Party for Children. All activities and club functions are promoted through various committees which are appointed by the president.

The present Silver Bell Club officers are: John Wysocki, President; Stanley Dabrowski, Vice-President; Andrew A. Gadzala Jr., Recording Secretary; Edward Krieger, Financial Secretary; Frank Gregorczyk, Treasurer; Albin Gregorczyk, Inner Guard; Eugene Delasinski, Sergeant-at-Arms and John Kusmiz, Chaplain.

On behalf of the Silver Bell Club, we pay tribute to Poland's forefathers who were responsible for us having the privilege to take part in this great celebration commemorating one-thousand years of Christianity.

Andrew A. Gadzala Jr.,
Recording Secretary,
Silver Bell Club

MADAME CURIE CIRCLE

Group 3134 P.N.A.

GARY, INDIANA

Seated: Frances Syrk, Financial Secretary; Helen Forszt, Vice-President; Janet Rzepka, President; Virginia Gregorczyk, Treasurer; Anne Bielewicz, Recording Secretary; Wanda Bellich, Sergeant-at-Arms.
Standing: Victoria Labus, Board Member; Francis DeCheske, Co-organizer; Helen Kraynak, Board Member; Lottie (Wawrzyniak) Kubiak, Past President and Lady Commissioner of District 15; Mary Joss, Board Member; Bernice Mazur, Board Member; Grace Starr, Past President.

Madame Curie Circle, Group 3134 of the Polish National Alliance, was organized on March 1, 1955, by Frances DeCheske, the late Helen Spychalski and the late Adam Solarczyk. The charter was obtained on April 5, 1955.

The objects of the Circle are: to uphold the ideals and high standards of the PNA; to aid and encourage cordiality among members by promoting social and educational programs; and to promote welfare for the benefit of members of the PNA.

The first officers were: President, Lottie (Wawrzyniak) Kubiak; Vice-President, Genevieve Regan; Financial Secretary, Frances DeCheske; Recording Secretary, Frances Syrk; Treasurer, Lillian Guzorek; Sergeant-at-Arms, Cecilia Sokolowski.

The membership has grown from 32 charter members to 230 adults and 90 children.

A scholarship fund was started in 1956 and two of the recipients graduated from universities and one from a nursing school.

We pride ourselves in our dancing and singing group formed in 1958. Under the able direction of Lillian Pesdan, the "Curiettes" have performed on television at the International Trade Fair in Chicago, a convention at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana, and at numerous other local and out-of-town affairs. They have been invited to perform at the state convention of the Knights of Columbus on May 21 and at the State Fair in Indianapolis this summer. Their folk dancing, singing, and colorful costumes have given pleasure to all who have viewed their performances.

The Circle has sponsored bowling teams since 1960, which have won several trophies. In 1961 they won First Place in the PNA National Championship Bowling Tournament held in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Our Group was honored in 1963 with the election of Lottie (Wawrzyniak) Kubiak as Lady Commissioner of District 15.

Financial contributions were made to the International Institute, the Polonia Youth Center, and to Alliance College. The Circle is represented at the Polish American Congress and Women's Division of District 15.

A style show and card party is an annual event, a portion of the proceeds of which are used for scholarship purposes.

An Anniversary Mass and breakfast is held in April of each year in memory of the living and deceased members. These have taken place in five different churches in our community.

The many accomplishments could not have been attained without the cooperation of the members and the leadership of the past presidents: Lottie (Wawrzyniak) Kubiak, Lillian Pesdan, Janet Rzepka and Grace Starr.

The 1966 officers are: President, Janet Rzepka; Vice-President, Helen Forszt; Financial Secretary, Frances Syrk; Recording Secretary, Anne Bielewicz; Treasurer, Virginia Gregorczyk; Sergeant-at-Arms, Wanda Bellich.

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA
Group 562, Garland 398 – Lily of the Valley
St. Anne's Society

Group 562, St. Anne's Society of Gary, Indiana, was organized in March, 1929. Maria Zajkowska and Frances Nadolska were its organizers.

In the beginning it consisted of thirteen members. The present membership is 114 adults and 46 juniors.

It participates in all events of importance and is generous in charitable donations.

The present officers are:

Marya Lazarz	President (27 years)
Maria Krzyzewska	Vice-President
Emilia B. Subartowicz	Financial Secretary and Garland Protector
Sophia Cwiklinski	Recording Secretary
Florence Kuznicka	Cashier
Irene Modrowski	Parliamentarian

POLISH NEW IMMIGRANTS CLUB

Fifteen years ago, in 1949, the flow of immigrants began from war-torn Europe to the United States. At this time some of these displaced persons decided to form a club in the city of Gary.

On January 19, 1950, at 116 E. 17th Ave., at 7:00 p.m. a meeting was called under the chairmanship of Vincent Basinski and the secretariat of Mitchell Tukaj.

Seventeen people attended this meeting. Today the membership is over 70.

At this meeting the chairman suggested that a club should be formed with the purpose of helping the new immigrants coming into the city, aiding the many displaced persons still in Western Europe and establishing a school that would teach English to any Polish immigrants who wanted to learn how to speak, read, and write English. Money for these purposes was to be obtained from social functions, such as the Club's annual "Swieconka", and donations.

The first officers of the club were: Vincent Basinski, President; Zofia Dorsch, 1st Vice-President; Anna Martynez, 2nd Vice-President: Mitchell Tukaj, Secretary; Walter Hojnacki, Treasurer; and The Reverend Bernard Ciesielski, Chaplain.

The name decided upon was, "Polish New Immigrants Club" (Klub Polski Nowej Imigracji).

In November, 1949, the Council 127 of PNA organized a school of English language for the new immigrants and the first teacher was Mr. Zygmunt Straszewski. Early in 1950, Council 127 of PNA turned the school over to the club. Under the club management its first teacher was Mr. Idzi Kobylanski, and the location of the school was at St. Hedwig Parish.

After the death of Mr. Kobylanski, the teacher's functions were, in turn, assumed by Helen Rzepka, Anthony Dziuba, and William Baran.

Then in 1952, the club under the leadership of its president, Mr. Lucjan Markiewicz, decided to open a Polish School for the children of new immigrants who wanted to learn to read and write Polish. The Reverend Louis Michalski, then pastor of St. Hedwig's Parish, donated the school facilities for the Polish instructions. Today lessons are held at St. Mark's School for the convenience of the children attending.

The teachers of the school have been: Helen Rzepka, Walter and Marie Jarmoluk, Theodore Pawinski, Irene Wozniak, Eugene and Halina Bielaj, The Reverend Leon Dobrzanski, The Reverend Joseph Wrona, Veronica Tyl, and Irene Sybilska. The present teacher is Halina Bielska.

Over the years, the Polish New Immigrants Club has invested $12,000 in the upkeep of this school, which is attended by anyone who wants to learn Polish.

In addition, the club contributes annually to various organizations which aid displaced Polish persons in Western Europe. Among the principal organizations is the Polish American Immigration and Relief Committee in New York. The club also tries to help any immigrant coming to Gary to establish a home in the United States.

In addition to contributing to charities, the club takes great interest in the various activities of other clubs. It also was one of the first to contribute $1,000.00 to the building of the Polish Home.

Past Presidents over the fifteen years have been: Vincent Basinski, Lucjan Markiewicz, Mitchell Tukaj, Stanley Ostrowski. At the present time the president is Katherine Opaluch.

The other officers are: Ann Primer, Vice-President; Louise Opaluch, Secretary; Bruno Jawor, Treasurer; and The Reverend Bernard R. Ciesielski, O.C.D., Chaplain.

HISTORY OF THE POLISH AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB, INC.

Seated: Mr. Wm. Baran, member of committee; Mrs. Barbara Hatch, member of committee; Mr. Walter Nawrocki, Treasurer; Mrs. Ann Primer, 2nd Vice-President; Mr. Andrew A. Gadzala, Jr., President; Mr. Al. Banaski, 1st Vice-President; Mrs. Pauline Banashak, Recording Secretary; Mr. Lucian Markiewicz, Sergeant-at-Arms; Mr. Joseph Korzeniewski, Charter member; Mrs. M. Woloszynek, Committee member and Mr. Matthew Woloszynek, Committee member.

The Polish American Democratic Club was organized in 1931, when forty-eight civic-minded Americans of Polish descent assembled to call the first meeting to order. The purpose of this assemblage was to organize the rapidly growing Polish community and to emerge with an organization that would represent the community in local government. On May 25, 1931, the first elected officers of the Club were: Joseph Laczny, president; John Cetner, recording secretary; Frank Smigiel, financial secretary and Casimir Anysz, treasurer. With the acquisition of the State Charter, this organization was named, "The Polish American Cemocratic Club".

During the 35 years of existence, the Club has not only contributed its share in government and the development of the city of Gary, but also contributes generously to various charitable organizations. Although the constitution and by-laws of the Club provide for cultivating and maintaining the Polish culture in the community, it likewise calls for love and respect of all others. The Club supports not only its qualified members who seek public office, but also many other candidates whom it feels are best qualified and are most deserving, regardless of their national origin.

The present Club administration is: Andrew A. Gadzala Jr., president; Albert Banaski, 1st vice-president; Ann Primer, 2nd vice-president; Pauline Banashak, recording secretary and Lucian Markiewicz sergeant-at-arms.

The Club pays tribute to Poland's forefathers who, one-thousand years ago, accepted Christianity and the civilization of the Western World. We commend the entire Millennium Committee, and especially those who were responsible for initiating the thought of this great celebration of a thousand years of Christianity.

T. S. KUBIAK, MGR.

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w k a ż d ą n i e d z i e l ę
od 11-tej -do- 12-tej w południe

... It nappened in Gary, Indiana, when Radio Station WWCA began broadcasting late in 1949 ... and the Polish Language Radio Program (organized in December, 1949) ... was the first among other Nationality Programs ... to be aired from Gary ...

On Saturday, January 7, 1950, at 8 o'clock in the morning, with Chopin's Polonaise Militaire as the Opening Theme, an invocation was delivered by the Rev. Zygmunt Wojciechowski, and greetings from the Organizations and Patrons were included with the newscast. The American Polish Radio Program was on the air. The staff was composed of the director, Mr. T.S. Kubiak; the announcer, Miss Lottie (Wadzia) Wawrzyniak, (now Mrs. Chester L. Kubiak); and for the selection of appropriate music for the programs, Mrs. Helen M. Kubiak. Guest speakers, attending that first Radio Program, included the Mayor of Gary, Mr. Eugene Swartz; the president of Lake Broadcasting Corporation, Mr. Dee O. Coe; and the late attorney-at-law, Mr. Frank A. Spychalski. All did beautifully in presenting this first broadcast in the Polish language from Gary.

As time went on, these Polish Language Radio Programs expanded to WGRY, Gary, on Sunday Mornings with a High Mass transmitted from various Roman Catholic Churches in the Calumet District, and WLOI in La Porte, Indiana, also on Saturdays.

Currently, these programs are presented over the facilities of W L T H – The Golden Voice of Gary – 1370 kc – every Sunday Morning from 11:00 a.m. – to – 12:00 noon. These weekly programs give their listening audience (over half million Americans speak and understand Polish) a variety of entertainment which includes, in addition to the regular commercials and newscasts, historical and patriotic excerpts about the United States as well as Poland, in words, song and music.

For the past few months emphasis was given to the Polish Millennium of Christianity and its meaning to the Americans, Poles and the Polonia in general.

CHOPIN CHORUS OF GARY

On August 11, 1916, a Group of Youth.

On August 11, 1916, a group of young Poles met for the purpose of organizing the first Polish-American Chorus in Gary, Indiana. This dedicated group conveived the idea that, through the cultivation of Polish songs and traditions on American soil, the beautiful spirit and customs of our forefathers would be perpetuated.

The name chosen for this new chorus was the "Choir of Polish Youth."

During the First World War, the Chorus was actively engaged in aiding the Polish army, the National Fund, and the Fund for Orphans and Widows. Financial resources, as well as a fervent patriotic spirit were in evidence toward beloved Poland on numerous occasions.

In 1921, funds were raised to establish an orphanage in Augustow, Poland. Individual donations and sums from the treasury were rushed to large portions of Poland ravaged by floods in 1925. A personal letter of thanks was rendered by Marshall Pilsudski for this aid.

The name of the chorus was changed in 1928 to "Chopin Chorus" -- commemorating the world famous Polish pianist and composer, Frederick Chopin.

Boleslaw J. Zalewski served as Choral Director from 1928 to 1941. Through the years the Chorus participated in various state contests and the Gary Music Festivals, winning awards in both events. The Chorus has also participated in many national conventions of the Polish Singers Alliance of America.

George Kalmus of Chicago has directed the chorus for the past twenty-five years. As a pianist, his honors include the famed Kosciuszko Foundation Award granting three years of study in Poland and in other parts of Europe. In addition, he studied choral direction with Herbert Witherspoon, a Metropolitan Opera personality, and George Bojanowski.

In 1951 the Chopin Chorus extended the title of Honorary President and Honorary Lifetime Membership to Frank Olszewski, organizer and still an active member. In 1965 the title of Honorary Lifetime Member of the Polish Singers Alliance was bestowed upon him at the National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

Each year the Chorus holds a Sponsor-Membership-Drive to help maintain the high standards of its activities. The Chorus presents two public social events annually, in addition to the Fall Concert.

The year 1966 being the Golden Anniversary of the Chorus, special events are planned which include the following:

1. Mardi Gras Ball with Choral Entertainment.
2. Television appearance.
3. State of Indiana Cultural Celebration of Poland's Millenium of Christianity.
4. Chopin Chorus Golden Anniversary Banquet and Ball at Hotel Gary, August 20th.
5. Chicago's Celebration of Poland's Millenium of Christianity at Soldier's Field.
6. State of Wisconsin's Celebration of Poland's Millenium of Christianity.
7. Chicago Circuit #1 Polish Singers Alliance of America Millenium Concert on September 17.
8. Chopin Chorus Golden Anniversary Concert at Indiana University-Northwest Campus Hall on November 13.
9. Annual Christmas Caroling at Gary Hospitals and Convalescent Homes.

As the only Polish Chorus in the State of Indiana, we are proud of the heritage of our founders and of our past accomplishments.

Let the 50 years of effort stand witness that the Chopin Chorus, alert to the goals staked out by our predecessors, will shine as a beacon of Polish spirit and song for years to come.

"Life without music is life without soul."

Frank Olszewski, Honary President: Lillian Pesdan, President; Evelyn Lisek, Vice-President; Stanley Nalewski, Vice-President; Stephanie Wallace, Secretary; Helen Zielinski, Treasurer; Helen Lis, Financial Secretary; Remigius Karwowski and Camille Piegat, Sergeants-at-Arms; Edward Kray, Parliamentarian; Zygmund Kruszynski, Historian and Eugene Zielinski, Editor.

HISTORY OF MARSHAL JOSEPH PILSUDSKI LODGE 2431 POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE

Sitting: Mrs. Eufemia Jagiela, First Vice-President; Franciszek Wilusz, President; Ignacy Wosniak, Treasurer; and Adolf Schabowski, Recording Secretary. Standing: Andrzej Switkiewicz, Second Vice-President; Sophie Cwiklinski; Director; Walter Jagiela, Financial Secretary; Marian Dusczynski, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Stanley Ostrowski, Director.

In the year 1912, a group of patriotic Poles who had the true Polish spirit in their hearts, met in Gary to organize a Polish National Alliance lodge. They were: John Antczak (now deceased), Peter Cwiklinski, Albert Grylewicz, Joseph Klimczyk, John Lach, Helen Momot, Frank Momot, Wlodzimierz Nykiewicz, Louis Mamot, Pauline Saniewski, Frank Nowakowski, Lottie Syrkiewicz, Angeline Grylewicz, John Klus, F. Korzeniowski, Anna Haj, Adam Sykiewicz, Konstanty Szelhaus, Marie Szelhaus, Rosalie Lochner, Frank Haj, Catherine Plecinski, Steve Szeklucki and Frank Winter.

The Central Office of the Polish National Alliance ratified this group as Lodge 1513 under the name of The Workers' Circle on October 2, 1912.

Lodge No. 2127 Polish National Alliance, organized by Peter Plecinski and Lawrence Naspinski, ratified by the Central Office of the Polish National Alliance on June 3, 1920, combined with Lodge 1513 P.N.A. on June 12, 1927. On December 15, 1946 Lodge 2812 P.N.A. combined with Lodge 1513 P.N.A., accepting the name of Marshal Joseph Pilsudski. The purpose of the combine was for further development of the Polish National Alliance and to strengthen its own forces.

On October 6, 1957, Lodge 1513 P.N.A. combined with Lodge 2431 P.N.A. taking the name of Marshal Joseph Pilsudski. The purpose of the combination was to build an enduring group of Poles under one standard.

The Lodge presently boasts 548 members. Its members meet every third Sunday of the month in the Glen Park Polish Home, 4345 Broadway, Gary. In the past 54 years it has contributed $38,000.00 toward humanitarian causes and $32,000.00 toward national and patriotic causes. It is an active member of Council 127 Polish National Alliance, Polonia Youth Camp, Dom Polski, 1600 Pennsylvania Street, Polish American Congress State of Indiana Division and Polish-American Home of Glen Park. The present officers of the Lodge are: Frank Wilusz, President; Eufemia Jagiela, First Vice-President; Andrew Switkiewicz, Second Vice-President; Adolph Schabowski, Recording Secretary; Ignace Wozniak, Treasurer; Walter Jagiela, Financial Secretary; Marian Duszczynski, Sergeant-at-Arms; Kazmira Hrabota, Sophie Cwiklinski and Stanley Ostrowski, Board of Directors; Historians: Frank Wilusz, chairman; Stanley Ostrowski, Secretary; Joseph Hrabota, Joseph Korzeniewski and Stanley Jagiela.

HISTORY OF COUNCIL 127 OF THE POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE

In Gary, Indiana

Sitting: Mrs. Loraine Ziemba, First Vice-President and Mrs. Lottie (Wawrzyniak), Treasurer
Standing: Messrs. Lucien Markiewicz, Second Vice-President; John Bajgrowicz, Sergeant-at-Arms; Walter Nawrocki, President; and Stanley Ostrowski, Secretary

Polish National Alliance, in its 86th year of existence, is very proud to present in this Millennium Program Book, a short history of Council 127 in Gary, Indiana.

Council 127 of the Polish National Alliance was organized through the efforts of delegates to the 22nd Quadrenial Convention that was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in September, 1919. The late Frank Zawadzki and the late John Kosinski, delegates from Gary, Indiana, were very instrumental in the formation and organization of Council No. 127, getting the approval of the other delegates to this convention.

The first administration of Council 127 of the Polish National Alliance was: Vincent Tomaszewski, President; Leon Wyszynski, Vice-President; Carl Baran, Secretary; and A. P. Stagowski, Treasurer.

The following presidents (now deceased) led this fine organization to the heights which it has attained in the past 45 years: Vincent Tomaszewski, John Kosinski, K. Stefanowski, Carl Baran, Peter Plecinski, L. Sobierajski, Walter Tolpa, Joseph Haj, Anthony Berek, Jacob Nylec, Felix Kalinowski, Frank Grzanka. Past presidents of the Council who are still active in the Organization in some other category are: Andrew Pikula (now living in California and active in PNA in that area), Anthony Dziuba (Assistant Fire Chief in the Gary Fire Department), and John Ziemba (National Director of the Polish National Alliance).

In this memorable year of 1966 the Council is very capably led and administered by the following officers: Walter Nawrocki, President; Loraine Ziemba, First Vice-President; Lucien Markiewicz, Second Vice-President; Stanley Ostrowski, Secretary; Lottie (Wawrzniak) Kubiak, Treasurer; and John Bajgrowicz, Sergeant-at-arms.

Council 127 is comprised of 72 delegates representing the following Polish National Alliance Groups in the Gary area: Group No. 912, 1306, 2106, 1640, 2365, 2431, and 3134. Monthly meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month at the Polish Home, 1600 Pennsylvania Street in Gary.

Some of the activities of Council No. 127 of the Polish National Alliance are: Annually on May third, a Polish Constitution Program was formulated to commemorate the anniversary of the great Polish Constitution which was adopted by the patriots of Poland on May 3, 1791.

For many years it has sponsored a Polish language class, various youth activities, and athletic tournaments and events. Council 127 has attempted to bring to the American people

the problems of the Polish nation, in an effort to secure help and cooperation to assist Poland to gain its rightful place among civilized nations. It has sent many resolutions to the United States government in order to bring out the truth about Poland, to help disabled Polish army veterans as well as resolutions to fight Communism and other evils. Many of these resolutions are now part of the Congressional Record. In 1948 Mr. John Ziemba, President of the Council, at that time formed a special committee to aid displaced Polish immigrants. The late Attorney Frank Spychalski and Lady Commissioner of District XV, the late Mrs. Michaline Wysocka, were Co-Chairmen. By obtaining affidavits from interested parties who would guarantee a job and/or find living quarters, this committee has been instrumental in helping over 200 persons settle in the Gary area.

The officers and members of the committee in charge were commended for the presentation of a beautiful and solemn memorial program after the tragic death of the late President John F. Kennedy in November, 1963.

Council 127 is also proud of having had three Lady Commissioners elected to office during the Quadrenial National Conventions. These were: the late Mrs. Michaline Wysocka, Mrs. Victoria Basinska and the present Commissioner, Mrs. Lottie (Wawrzyniak) Kubiak. One of the Commissioners, Mr. John Ziemba, is now a National Director.

Council 127 of the Polish National Alliance has representation in the following organizations: Polish American Congress, State of Indiana Division; Polish Home, 1600 Pennsylvania Street in Gary; The Glen Park Polish American Home; Polonia Youth Center in Crown Point, International Institute of Gary, District XV of the Polish National Alliance; and the Women's Division of District XV of the Polish National Alliance.

Today, Council 127 of the Polish National salutes Poland and its Nation on its great jubilee, "THE POLISH MILLENNIUM OF CHRISTIANITY"!

History Committee:

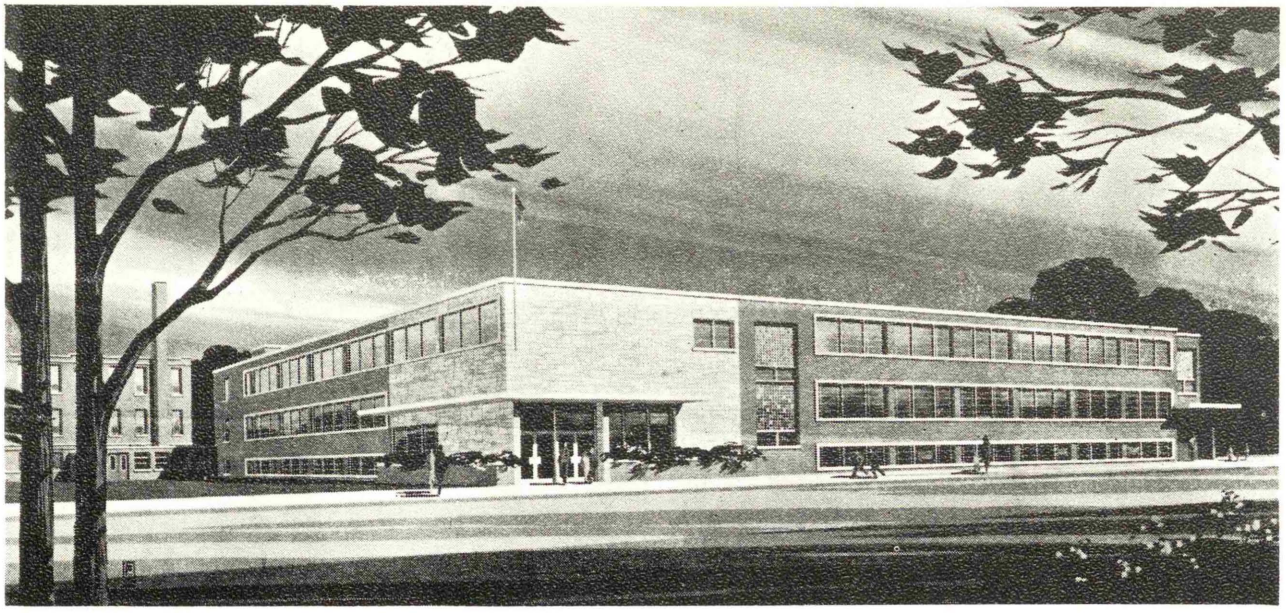
Loraine Ziemba, Chairman
Stanley Ostrowski, Secretary
Lottie Kubiak, Walter Nawrocki,
Lucien Markiewicz, John Bajgrowicz,
Thomas Sech, Leon Jaskula

HISTORY OF EAST CHICAGO

East Chicago and Indiana Harbor together form the "Twin City" of the region. These communities have always been united politically under the name of East Chicago. Each community has developed its own business, manufacturing, and residential districts so as to give the appearance of separate cities.

Because the early settlers avoided this part of the Calumet region, it remained in almost a virgin state until the last years of the nineteenth century. The expansion of the steel industry in the Chicago area was largely responsible for the origin and development of East Chicago. By 1893 East Chicago's population was large enough for it to be elevated to the status of a city. East Chicago experienced an industrial and real estate boom for several years after its founding. The Graver Tank Works, established in 1888, was the town's first industry. In 1901 arrangements were made with Inland Steel to locate a plant in Indiana Harbor. This was probably the most important single event in East Chicago's history. European immigrants arrived in the city in great numbers before World War I seeking employment in the numerous industries. In 1910 the foreign-born constituted 53 per cent of the population; in 1920, 40 per cent. The Polish immigrants predominated.

To meet the spiritual needs of these Polish settlers in East Chicago, St. Stanislaus' Church was founded in 1896. From a humble beginning, it has grown into one of the largest parishes in the diocese. In 1906 St. John Cantius' parish was organized. The Reverend John Kubacki began the organization of this parish by ministering to Polish people living in Indiana Harbor during the years 1903 and 1904. St. Joseph's Parish was organized for the Polish people in 1916.



ST. STANISLAUS PARISH

East Chicago, Indiana

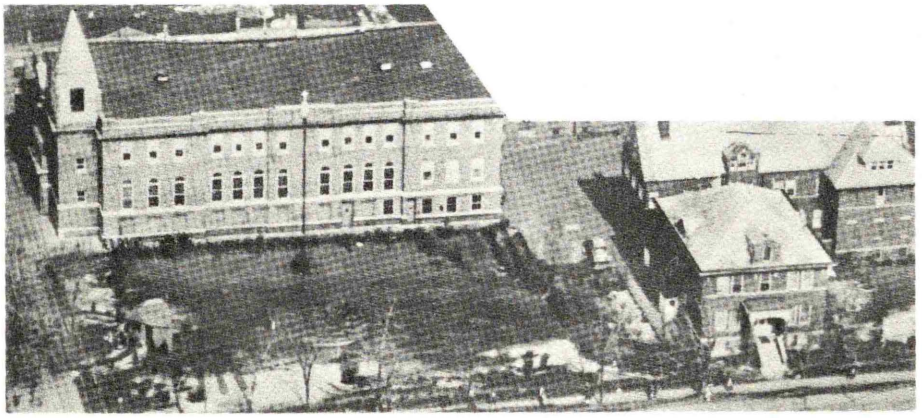
The Poles in East Chicago, Indiana traveled to St. Casimir's Parish in Hammond, Indiana to fulfill their religious obligations; Frs. Casimir Kobylinski and Peter Kahellek ministered to the spiritual needs of the growing Polish Community in East Chicago. The original church of frame construction was built by Fr. Kobylinski in 1896 and dedicated to St. Michael.

In 1901 Rev. John Kubacki became the first resident pastor. He found it necessary to purchase additional property for future expansion of the parish. Fr. Kubacki with the help of his people, built a school and engaged the Sisters of Saint Francis as teachers. The church was moved from Baring Avenue to its present site and the name of the Church was changed to St. Stanislaus.

In 1904 Fr. Kubacki was succeeded as pastor by Fr. Joseph Bolka. Fr. Bolka enlarged the church and made numerous changes. In 1908 Fr. Peter Budnik was appointed Pastor and remained until 1923, when he resigned his pastorship and entered the Franciscan Order in Pulaski, Wisconsin. Fr. Budnik built the present church and rectory in 1912 and also began construction of a new school which, was later completed by his successor Fr. Julian Skrzypinski, who became pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish in 1923. The school built in 1923 was destroyed by fire Jan. 18th, 1958. A new modern school building was erected in its place and made operational in the Spring of 1961 at a cost of well over one million dollars. In the summer of 1940, Fr. Skrzypinski was made a papal chamberlain, with the title of Very Rev. Monsignor. He was invested on September 14th, 1940 in the Chapel of St. Catherine's Hospital in East Chicago. In January 1956 he was made a domestic prelate. Msgr. Skrzypinski celebrated his golden anniversary of his ordination April 28th, 1957. In March 1961 he was made a Protonotary Apostolic, by the Most Rev. Andrew Grutka, D.D., bishop of Gary.

Of the many parish societies, the largest is the Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary, which was founded by Fr. Kubacki in October 1900. At that time it numbered 60 members. The first president was Rosalie Owsiana. Today the Society numbers over 750 members. The president is Mrs. Valerie Kowalski.

The parish was richly blessed with vocations. Nineteen young men of the parish were called to the Holy Priesthood, 3 sons of the parish are Religious brothers and more than eighty young women of the parish entered the Sisterhood. In August 1964 The Rev. Henry Krysinski was appointed administrator of the parish. Now in it's 70th year of existence St. Stanislaus parish together with its priests and people joins with her sister parishes throughout the world in a grateful TE DEUM of thanksgiving for the gift of Faith bestowed upon the Polish Nation 1000 years ago.



POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA
QUEEN MARY OF POLAND SOCIETY
SOCIETY 413
1909 - 1966

Through the efforts of Reverend Peter Budnik, pastor, Albert Mysliwiec, Julian Glowacki, John Kozlowski, Frank Malachowski, Mary Mysliwiec, Anna Kolbus, and Mrs. Sobuszczak, the society was formed on June 6, 1909. It has the distinction of being the first society organized at St. Stanislaus Parish in East Chicago.

At the first meeting, with 19 members in attendance, the following were elected as the first officers of this new society: Mary Mysliwiec, President, Julia Kucharska , Vice-President, Elizabeth Szafasz recording secretary, Lillian Krygowska, Treasurer, Mary Kasprzyk and Agnes Florek trustees, and Rozalia Podraza, Sergeant-at-Arms.

In 1928, a juvenile department was started with 28 members.

In 1940, through the juvenile department and the hard work of the late Katherine Rokosz and Juvenile Secretary, Katherine Golubiewski, the Polish Girl Scouts were organized. This group took part in many Polish festivities representing the society.

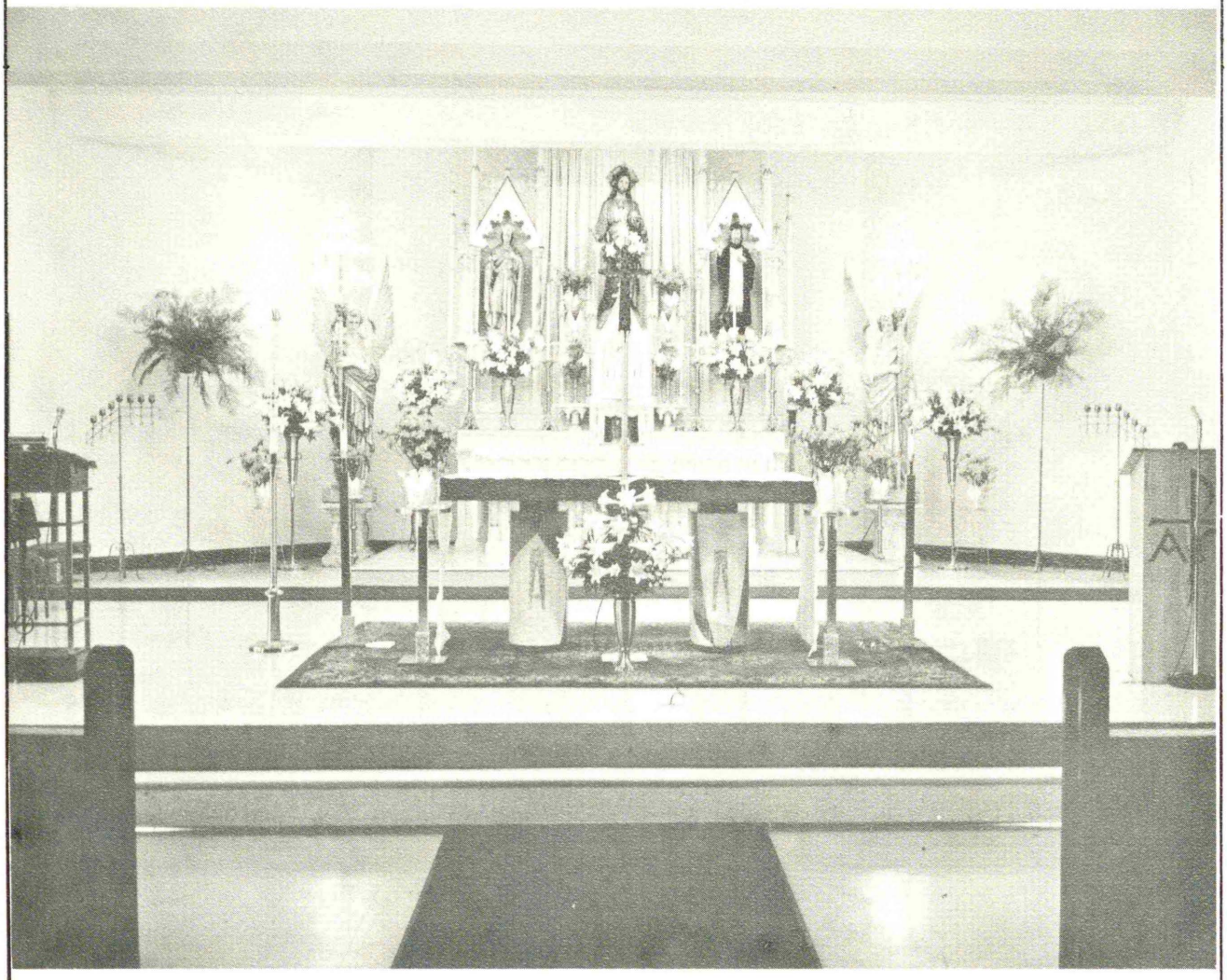
In order to interest the youth in a fraternal organization, sports were introduced; these activities have played an important role in the success of the growth of the society. Today, the society is proud to have its own bowling league which participates in the annual national bowling tournament. To date, teams from the society have won three national tournaments. For the first time this year, two girls' basketball teams represented the society in the national basketball tournament in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; This was made possible through the efforts of President Katherine Golubiewski, and the basketball coach Stanley Mudy. Many of the members also take active part in the P. R. C. U. golf tournaments held annually in different cities.

The society also takes pride in its dancing school. Under the direction of their teacher Shirley Mudy, the children, dressed in their Polish costumes, have intertained at the orphanages, St. Anne's Home, Westville Hospital, Whiting Community Center, and at various programs and celebrations.

Since its existence, the society has donated hundreds of dollars to such charities and organizations as the veterans hospitals, old age home, missions, Orchard Lake Seminary, orphans, Red Cross and Blind children in Poland.

Today the society has grown to a membership of 312 adult and 117 juvenile members. It was through the efforts of Mary Mysliwiec, Sophie Sulicz, Josephine Zywiec, Julia Zawada, Sally Pikula, Mary Rymarowicz, Mary Ciereszewski, who served as past officers, and its hard working members, that this growth was accomplished.

Officers for year 1966: Reverend Henry Krysinski, Chaplain; Katherine Golubiewski, President; Cecelia Brainer, Vice - President; Mary Kusiak, Recording Secretary; Julie Hayduk, Financial Secretary; Dolores Spejewski, Treasurer; Shirley Mudy, Juvenile Secretary; Victoria Pasko, Trustee; Julia Zawada, Sergeant-at-Arms.



ST. JOHN CANTIUS

East Chicago, Indiana

HISTORY OF ST. JOHN CANTIUS PARISH

East Chicago, Indiana

The beginning of St. John Cantius Parish dates back to the outset of the present century. It was at the turn of the century that heavy industry began to grow in the Calumet Area, now known as Indiana Harbor. Soon people from other parts of America and immigrants from abroad were attracted here by job possibilities.

The Poles who settled in the area attended Mass and received the Sacraments in Polish parishes already established in East Chicago and Whiting. As the Polish population grew, steps were taken to erect a church in Indiana Harbor to accommodate them.

In June, 1904, the bishop of Fort Wayne granted approval for the establishment of a Polish parish in Indiana Harbor. The Reverend Peter Budnik of Whiting was appointed to look after the spiritual needs of the Poles living in the area. In 1905, an edifice of cement blocks was built; and in March. 1905, the Holy Sacrifice of Mass was first offered in the new church by its first permanent pastor, the Reverend Anthony Stachowiak. Father Stachowiak was also responsible for the present rectory, built in 1914 and the crypt church built in 1917. In frail health for some years, Father Stachowiak passed to his eternal reward on May 25, 1925, and was succeeded by Reverend Teofil Chemma. During his pastorate, a new school was built, and extensive remodeling of parish buildings took place. The new school was completed in 1928. In April, 1932, Father Chemma was succeeded by Reverend Michael Petzold. Father Petzold became pastor of St. John Cantius in the darkest days of depression. Due to his tireless efforts and the great generosity of his good people not only was the debt of $278,000.00 liquidated, but a surplus of $435,000.00 was realized. It was during his pastorate that the parish celebrated the Golden Jubilee of its founding. In the same year, 1955, Father Petzold was elevated to the rank of a domestic prelate. Monsignor Michael Petzold died in August 1965, and Father Anthony Balczun was appointed administrator of the parish.

St. John Cantius Parish in its 60 years of existence, has seen 23 of its parishioners enter into the service of the Church. Six young men have been raised to the dignity of the priesthood; the Reverend Adam Werbila, now deceased; the Reverend Wencel Karp, present pastor of Sacred Heart parish in Gary; Rt. Reverend Stanley Zjawinski, P.A., Vicar General of the diocese of Gary and pastor of St. Casimir Parish in Hammond; the Very Reverend John Grabowski, Provincial of the Resurrection Fathers; the Reverend Gratian Budzik, O.F.M., with the Franciscan Fathers in Pulaski, Wisconsin; and the Reverend Leonard Lukaszewski, a priest of the Gary Diocese, now serving as chaplain with the rank of Major in the United States Army.

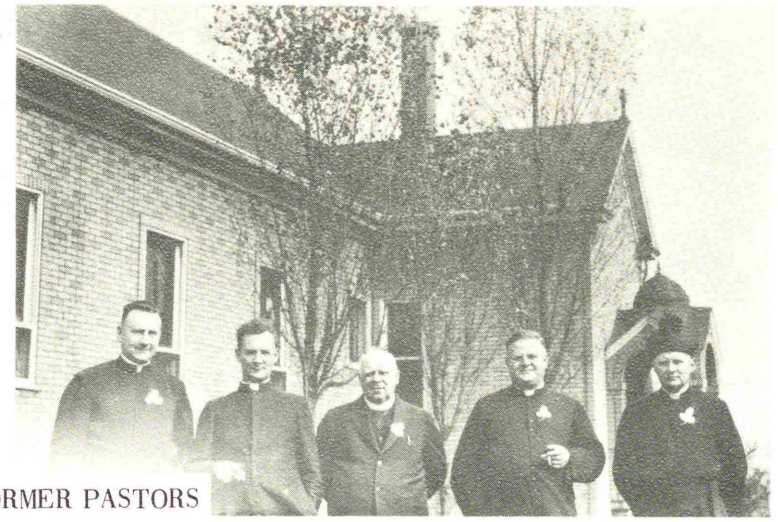
Seventeen other members of the parish have entered Religious life: Brother Frederick (Edward) Fuss of the Alexian Brothers; Brother Miles Brainer of the Franciscans; Brother Norbert Balon of the Christian Brothers; Brother Patrick Grzeso of the Franciscans.

Sister M. Eustace Borowska, Sister M. Asteria Bzibziak, Sister M. Condette Minczuk, Sister M. Presentia Graybowska, Sister M. Therese Wojciechowicz, Sister M. Colette Kwieczka, Sister M. Bonaventure Nagrocka, Sister Joseph Andrew Pokropinski, Sister M. Agnes Hemmand, Sister M. Rafael Beaver, all of the Sisters of St. Francis of Blessed Kunegunda.

Sister M. Celeste Cichowlaz of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Sister M. Palmaria Durlak of the Sisters of Nazareth, and Sister M. Marie Kostecka of the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

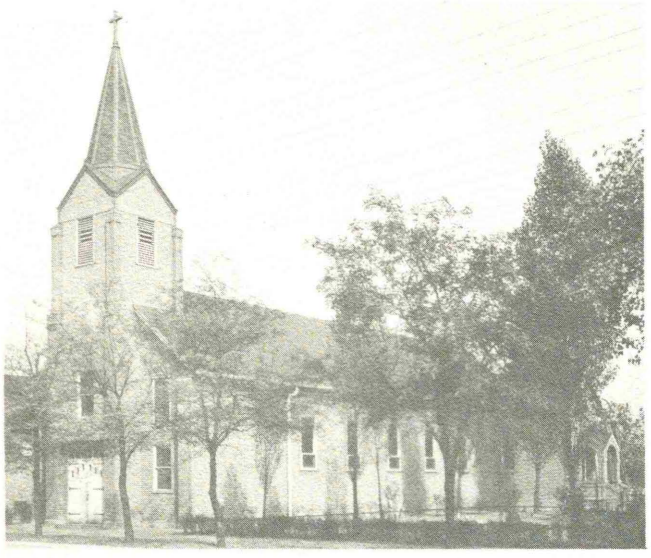
The following priests have served as curates at St. John Cantius parish: Reverend Romuald Gorek, Reverend Ladislaus Kubiak, Monsignor Ignatius Gapczynski, Reverend Augustyn Kondiziela, Reverend John Kulczyk, Reverend Anthony Nadolny, Reverend John Kunkiel, Reverend Michael Urbanski, Reverend Michael Petzold, Reverend Ladislaus Krause, Reverend Valerian Karz, Reverend Louis Ratajczak, Reverend Francis Nowak, Reverend Walter Pawlicki, Reverend Francis J. Nowak, Reverend Louis Jeziorski, Reverend Thomas Depa, Reverend Chester Zurawiec, Reverend Eugene Pogorzelski, Reverend John Bargielski, Reverend Stanley Dominik.

By the grace of Divine Providence, St. John Cantius Parish has grown from its humble beginnings into a sound parochial structure. Today it joins its sister parishes throughout the world in a joyous "Te Deum" celebrating Poland's Millennium of Christianity.

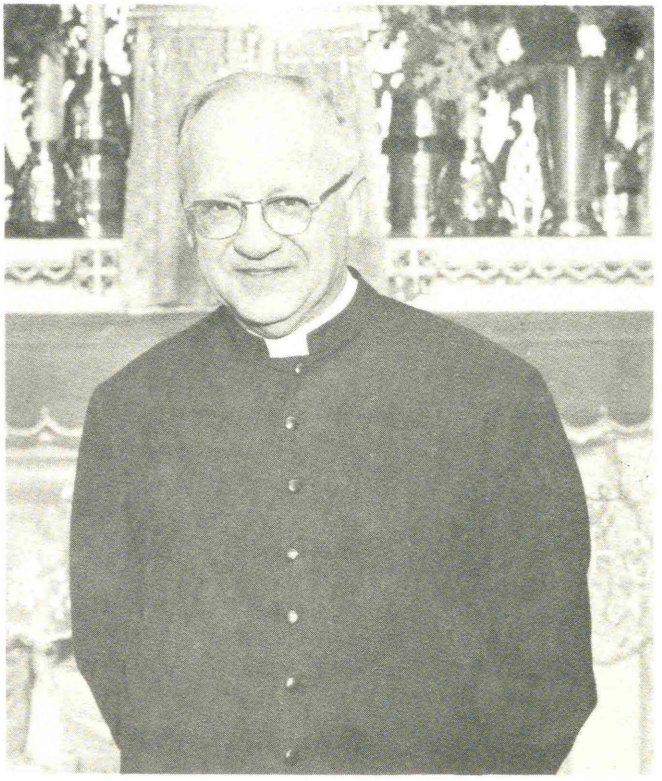


FORMER PASTORS

Center: Joseph Zielinski, founder and first Pastor
Left to right: Rev. Edward Wroblewski, 5th Pastor (deceased); Msgr. John Bernacki, 2nd Pastor (deceased); Rev. Joseph Zobel, 4th Pastor and Rev. August Kondziela, 3rd Pastor.



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
East Chicago, Indiana



Rev. Joseph A. Buczyna, 6th Pastor
(since February 1953)

SHORT HISTORY OF ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH, EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA DISTRICT 3 STATE OF INDIANA

The founding of St. Joseph's Polish Roman Catholic Church of East Chicago, Indiana, dates back to the year 1915. At the close of that year, a small number of Polish families, living in the eastern portion of the city of East Chicago proper, began to demand their own parish church. After final decision had been reached about organizing a parish, some favored a church building, while others wanted a parish school. The desires, however, of those people were not realized in the course of that year. A census revealed that the number of would-be parishioners was greater than anticipated.

The whole matter was brought for consideration to Father Peter Budnik of St. Stanislaus church. He at once promised hearty support and cooperation. On January, 5, 1916, Father Budnik called the first meeting of the future parishioners at the old Calumet Bank Building. Many were present. St. Joseph was decided on as the patron saint of the parish. A decision about the building of the church and school had been made. An election of a councilmen's committee followed.

About the middle of August, 1916, Father Budnik brought the matter to the attention of the Most Reverend H. J. Allerding, then Bishop of the Fort Wayne Diocese, who in turn appointed the Reverend Joseph Zielinski as pastor. Father Zielinski began his task with such zeal that within one month, eleven lots were purchased for the parish site, which were all paid for before the closing of May, the following year, 1917.

The next matter was the erection of the new church building which was to serve also as a school building. The intense sacrifices of the parishioners resulted in the erection of a church; and in October, 1917, the Right Reverend Bishop blessed the new building under the patronage of St. Joseph, Father Zielinski wasted no time in opening the classrooms in the church building. He taught the children himself, since it was difficult to obtain teachers or nuns. At the end of 1917, the Polish Franciscan Sisters of St. Cunegunda of Chicago, Illinois, arrived. Sister Berchmans was the first sister appointed. She saw the parish grow, and was superior at three different times. Such names as K. Radecki, Stanley Borkowski, J. Niedojadlo, M. Harubin, J. Mayer, D. Tarka, M. Koscielniak, and K. Porta, appear in the first minutes of the newly organized parish, dated October, 1917. Father Zielinski built the first church, rectory, and a convent for the Sisters.

In 1923 Father Zielinski was appointed to St. Adalbert in Whiting. Father John Biernacki succeeded him at St. Joseph's and carried on his noble task. Within five years, a new school housing four classrooms was erected. In July, 1927, the Most Reverend Bishop appointed Father August Kondziela as pastor of St. Joseph. Father Kondziela built an addition to the convent; a hall was also built during this time.

In 1932, Father Joseph Zobel became pastor. Father Zobel did a marvelous job keeping the parish intact and preventing it from going into the hands of the receivers during the dark depression years of our country.

In July, 1939, Father Edward Wroblewski was appointed pastor by Bishop John Francis Noll, D. D. During his tenure all the buildings were remodeled, and many renovations were made. The Lourdes Grotto on the parish grounds and the statue of St. Joseph were erected. The estimated valuation of the parish at the time of the Silver Jubilee of the parish was $90,000. All the debt of the parish was paid during Father Wroblewski's pastorate.

The parish is now a cosmopolitan parish. There are Negroes, Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Chinese and others among the ninety families; of 140 children in school, only about twenty five are from Polish families. These children are taught by four nuns with Sister F. Fortunata as a Superior. They also teach forty five girls from the near-by Home for Girls conducted by the Carmelite Sisters. The present pastor, the Reverend Joseph A. Buczyna, has spent 27 years in East Chicago, 13 1/2 years as an assistant at St. Stanislaus, and the last 13 1/2 years as pastor of St. Joseph's. He is noted in this area for his work with youth and for his work in church and fraternal organizations. He is the state chaplain of the P.R.C.U., board member of Catholic Charities in East Chicago, chaplain and Spiritual Director of the Pilgrimages Society of the state of Indiana. He is observing this year of the Millennium with a trip to Poland and a tour of religious shrines throughout Europe.

The following church and fraternal Polish organizations serve the Parish. The Ladies Rosary, Holy Name, Young Ladies Sodality, Children of Mary, St. Cecilia Choir, Junior Holy Name, St. Joseph social Club, N.C.C.M., N.C.C.W., Zwiazek Polek, Group 429, Zjednoczenie, Tow Ks. Jozefa Buczyna R. 1576, Zw. Nar. Polski.

COUNCIL 83 OF POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA.

Left to right: Sitting -- Jean Hodupski, Sec.; Valerie Mackowiak, Vice-Pres.
Standing – Thad Wachel, Pres.; Joe Trybula, Treas., Andrew Pazdur, Sgt.-at-Arms; Joe Nowak, Vice-Pres.

Council 83 of Polish National Alliance is comprised of nine PNA groups totaling 1,800 adult members and 425 juveniles. Quarterly meetings of the council are held at the home of "Syrena" club of GR 1810 PNA, 602 W 151 - St. , in East Chicago and at the Home of the Polish Vets, 3828 Main St., in Indiana Harbor.

Following groups comprise council 83 of PNA: 362, President, Sebastyan Trela; Financial Secretary, Joseph Nowak; 479, President, John Marcisz; Financial Secretary, Edward Ostrowski; 693, President, Frank Lampa; Financial Secretary, Walter Zagrocki; 922, President, Alex Czajkowski; Financial Secretary, Frank Tamborski; 1389 recently merged with 362. 1761 President Cecilia Banasiak; Financial Secretary, Mary Majewski; 1810, President, Casimir Podkul; Financial Secretary, Stanley Hap; 2947, President, Valerie Mackowiak; 3022, President, Helen Mroz; 3094, President, Josephine Kolanko; Financial Secretary, Marie Krasowski. Chief organizer for council 83 PNA is Henry Krasowski, co-organizers are: Valerie Mackowiak, Mary Majewski, Frank Tamborski and Walter Zagrocki. Present officers of the council are: Thaddeus Wachel, President; Valerie Mackowiak, Vice President; Joseph Nowak, Vice President; Jean Hodupski, Secretary; Joseph Trybula, Treasurer; Andrew Pazdur, Sergeant at Arms; Peter Zielinski, Assistant Sergeant at Arms.

Council 83 has 57 delegates, women and men, representing the nine groups listed above.

Main activities: Membership drives, membership contests, social gatherings, dances, youth groups, athletic events, sponsorship of PNA bowling teams, full cooperation with the Indiana State Division of the Polish American Congress, support of all Polish American affairs; cooperation with all community activities and financial drives.

THE BELLS OF POLAND
P.N.A. GROUP 2947

The Bells of Poland, Group 2974, was organized on April 15th, 1940, in East Chicago, through the efforts of Mrs. Valeria Mackowiak as Commissioner of the P.N.A. At the first official meeting the following officers were elected: President, Mary (Krajewska) Marcisz; Vice President, Lottie Raczkowska; Recording Secretary, Adelina Balon; Financial Secretary, Mary Bogucka; Treasurer, Irene Stuckert.

The women of the Bells of Poland are proud of their Polish ancestry, and put forth every effort to entwine with our democratic way of life the various traditions and customs of the Polish people. Members are eager and anxious to assist those in need, and also promote civic progress in order to better themselves and the entire community.

During the past 25 years, the Bells of Poland has participated in numerous church activities and has assisted in promoting the welfare of many charitable causes.

The organization is proud to be a member of the Polish American Congress of Indiana and of the Polish National Alliance. The present membership 200 is capably guided by the following officers in this great Millennium Year of 1966: President, Mrs. Valeria Mackowiak; Vice President, Mrs. Walter Stelmach; Recording Secretary , Miss Jean Hodupski; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Benjamin Gaynor; Treasurer, Mrs. Antoinette Wasowicz; Trustees, Mrs. Chester Prusiecki, Mrs. Walter Raczkowski, and Mrs. John Marcisz.

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP — GROUP 122
East Chicago, Indiana

Front row: Zenona Traczyk, Recording Secretary; Mary Rakowski, President; and Michalene Hodupski, Treasurer. Second row: Mary Michnik, Trustee; Martha Wasiak, Vice-President; Celia Wesolowski, Trustee, and Irene Gustufson, Trustee. (Absent is Helene Mikolajczyk, Financial Secretary)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Group 122, of the Polish Women's Alliance of America, was organized on the 21st of May, 1911, at St. John Cantius Parish in East Chicago, Indiana, with Rev. Anthony Stachowiak, now deceased.

The organizers of Group 122 were: Cornelia Tokarski, Agnes Mazurowski, Stella Sobolewski, Julia Grochowalski, Michalene (Golawski) Miedzianowski and Mary Forszt. There were fiteen members who signed the charter.

The first president of the group was Stella Sobolewski; the Vice - President, Julia Ryper, Recording Secretary, Pearl Grzankowski; Financial Secretary, Michalene (Golawski) Miedzianowski; Treasurer, Theodorea Orzeckowski, and Board Members were Bernice Pucalik, Mary Dolatowski andAnastasia Owsianna. The Reverend Anthony Stachowiak administered the oath of the officers. Dr. John Stawicki at that time was the group physician.

1. There are 68 deceased members of the group.
2. The living members of the original group are: Cornelia Tokarski, Michalene (Golawski) Miedzianowski and Mary Forszt. We are happy to have them still with us.

The Junior Group was organized on October 23, 1925. The organizer of the group was Mrs. A. Slamkowski.

There are now 205 Adult Members and 47 Junior Members of the group. Their meetings are held the fourth Sunday of each month at the St. John Cantius Parish Hall.

Over the period of fifty-five years, the group has donated $15,000.00 to cultural, national religious and charitable drives. During World Wars 1 and 2, members sacrificed many hours working with the American Red Cross, The Polish Womens Alliance of America, a fraternal organization with headquarters in Chicago , Illinois.

Officers at present are: Mary Rakowski, President; Martha Wasiak, Vice-President; Zenona Traczyk, Recording Secretary; Helen Mikolajczyk, Financial Secretary; Michalene Hodupski, Treasurer and Stella Wawrzyniak, Sergeant at Arms Mary Michnik, Celia Wesolowski, Irene Gustufson are Trustees. Dr. John Nicosia (Mayor) is the group physician.

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA
OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION GROUP 132

Standing: Eva Kwasny, Josephine Kras, Josephine Betlej, Catherine Mysliwy, Helen Hodor, Antoinette Kurzydym, Helen Marcinek. Seated: Helen Pienta.

1911 HISTORY 1966

To unite all local women of Polish extraction in national and social work, seventeen women met on February 12, 1912, in the home of the late Petronella Krupa in East Chicago, Indiana and organized a fraternal benefit society, naming it "Our Lady of Consolation," The seventeen members were chartered as Group 132 on February 20, 1912.

The first officers were: Petronella Krupa, President; Anna Herod, Financial Secretary; Angeline Longawa, Recording Secretary and Catherine Kubacka, Treasurer.

To preserve Polish ideals and traditions in the hearts of the younger generation, to acquaint them with Polish history and literature, and to develop within them the cultural values of the Polish people, a St. Theresa Garland No. 170 was organized in October, 1925, for members between ten and sixteen years of age. Today the juvenile membership numbers 236; these members, under the guidance of the group, receive lessons in Polish singing and dancing, take part in Mother's Day and Christmas programs, and are sent as delegates to state and national conventions.

Adult and juvenile members take an active part in all commemorations of anniversaries, and in all national endeavors and celebrations. During World War 11, they contributed many hours of work to the local chapter of the Red Cross; their contributions to charitable, cultural, humanitarian, national, and religious drives have totalled $22,232. 26.

Past Presidents of the group are: Petronella Krupa, Lecodadia Dombkowska, Bertha Ochala, Catherine Mysliwy, and Bertha Breclaw.

The title of honorary member was conferred upon Bertha Breclaw, who achieved distinction by meritorious service in the group as President for 37 years.

The 1966 Administration is: Helen Pienta, President; Helen Hodor, Vice-President; Eva Kwasny, Financial Secretary; Josephine Kras, Recording Secretary; Josephine Betlej, Treasurer; Antoinette Kurzydym, Trustee; Catherine Mysliwy, Trustee; Helen Marcinek, Sergeant - at - Arms; Victoria Jakubowicz , Garland Supervisor.

HISTORY OF ST. HEDWIG'S LODGE
GROUP 408
POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA
EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

On May 28, 1924, Group 408 was organized by Mrs. Julia Myszak with 16 members. At the first meeting the state president, Mrs. Bernice Breclaw, attended the meeting; at that time the members voted on the name of St. Hedwig, and Lodge 408 was admitted to the Polish Women's Alliance of America by its Board of Directors.

The first officers were: Mrs. Sophie Buda, president; Mrs. Sophie Richwalska, vice-president; Mrs. Anna Bobowski, Financial Secretary; Mrs. Antonette Krupinska, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Harriet Lutkus, Treasurer; Mrs. Mary Gregorowicz, Trustee.

Past presidents of the lodge are: Mrs. Sophie Buda, Mrs. Julia Myszak; Mrs. Karolina Czarnecka; Mrs. Antonette Krupinska; Mrs. Julia Kucharska; Mrs. Mary Miklusiak; and Mrs. Helen Szczygiel.

From the very beginning, the small group of members worked with enthusiasm and dedication to increase the growth of the organization, until at present the lodge numbers 285 members and 128 juvenile members. Deceased are 45 members. The group has 29 paid up certificates. The organization teaches national folk dancing and singing, takes part in all civic, cultural, and religious activities. It has donated about $11,150.00 for worthy causes.

Every year the group has installation and each member attending the meeting receives a small gift. A Mother's Day Program is held at which the juvenile group honors and entertains the mothers with traditional folk dancing, singing and dialogues. The oldest and the youngest mothers are presented with gifts from the organization. Many other programs are held throughout the year.

Present officers are: Mrs. Helen Szczygiel, President; Mrs. Anna Kenar, Vice-president; Mrs. Bernice Orawiec, Secretary - Financial; Mrs. Veronica Szczygiel, Secretary - Recording; Mrs. Anna Perz, Treasurer; Mrs. Anna Muszynska , Trustee; Mrs. Bernice Bazan , Trustee; Mrs. Bernice Kalemba, Sergeant-at-arms; Mrs. Helen Paczkowska, Juvenile Secretary.

HISTORY OF HAMMOND

The early history of Hammond, oldest of the larger cities of the region, is closely intertwined with the movement of German immigrants into the Middle West and with the beginning of the modern meat-packing industry in the United States.

In 1850, the area where Hammond now stands, was covered with sand ridges and swamps. Its settlement began when the Michigan City Railroad, built across the region the following year, made it accessible from Chicago. As most of the area was swamp land and could be purchased from the State of Indiana at the minimum price of $1.25 an acre, and as the railroads were expected to increase the value of land, here was an excellent opportunity for profitable investments in real estate. Cheap land was the attraction that brought thrifty settlers from Chicago to what was then a wilderness.

In 1875, the town of Hammond was platted and five years later, the Federal census, noticing the place for the first time, reported 699 residents. The German character of the city was diminished by the influx of immigrants from other European countries in the years before World War I, especially from Poland.

ST. CASIMIR PARISH
HAMMOND, INDIANA

United by their common history, language and traditions, strengthened by their deep faith, the Polish immigrants who lived on the sandy soil near the Calumet river were determined to give expression to their faith and traditions by organizing themselves into a "flock of Christ." These pioneers of St. Casimir's Parish knew well the difficulties before them: fifty families scattered from Hegewisch to East Gary and from Whiting to South Hammond in days when transportation was almost nil; no resident pastor, only the frequent visits of Father Urban Raszkiewicz from St. Mary's Church, Otis, Indiana and assistance of Father Emmanuel Wrobel from St. Mary's Michigan City.

Due to their attachment and love of their parish churches in the villages and cities of their native land, they pined for a church and parish which they could call their own. Their dreams became reality on November 30, 1890, when, under the guidance of Father Raszkiewicz, a committee was selected to represent the parish. It consisted of the following: President, August Moldrawski; Vice President, Martin Skonieczny; Recording Secretary, Stanislaus Krawczyk; Financial Secretary, John Mendlikowski; Treasurer, Anthony Furman.

Others on committees and whose families are remembered although dispersed throughout the Calumet area now, include; Joseph Splitt, Felix Janicki, Charles Jerzyk and George Dubczak. Among the early pioneer families are found the following names: Karbowski; Lewandowski, Alex, Jacob, and Victor; Jaranowski; Kowalewski; Zasada, Joseph and Francis; Krawczyk, Stanislaus and Jacob; Wojcieszak; P. Fibich; Budnik; Sieracki; Pawlus; Milda; Furman; Paulik; Aaronowski; Paulowski; Cichoracki; Dubczak; Hansel; Moldrawski; Kwiatkowski; Nowak, Andrew , John, Joseph; Florczak, Stanislaus and Adalbert; Gierlachowski; Szarkowski; Stanglewicz; Konszczynski; Mikolajczak; Przymusinski;Rychwalski; Mikulski; Pokorski; Wozniak and Splitt. These were the precious foundation stones of a future parish which included not only all of Hammond but also Hegewisch, Calumet City, Whiting, East Chicago, and Gary.

The first resident pastor, Rev. Casimir Kobylinski, arrived to take charge of his new flock in July of 1891. His six years at St. Casimir's were busy and eventful. The founding fathers had already purchased eight lots at the corner of Cameron Street and Huehn Avenue and had erected a two story church-school combination type of building which continued in use for a good many years. Under Father Kobylinski's direction, the Poles in East Chicago organized the first daughter-parish, the present St. Stanislaus parish, in 1896. When he left for St. Paul, Minnesota, Father Kobylinski's flock consisted of 125 families, 77 parochial school students with two lay teachers, and a debt of eight hundred dollars.

The new laborer in the growing vineyard of St. Casimir's was the Rev. Peter Kahellek (1897-1909) who came to Hammond from North Judson. His pastorate was marked by the installation of a pipe organ, the purchase of additional property, the construction of a rectory, and the arrival of three Franciscan Sisters in the Fall of 1901, due to an

(St. Casimer Parish contd)
increase in the school enrollment to 168.

One of the three original sisters is with us to the present day, namely Sister M. Thaddea. The same devoted, hard working community of sisters, to the total of 150, has been with the parish through the years. It was also under Father Kahellek that the present parish of St. Adalbert in Whiting, was organized in 1901.

A little over half of the parish depended on the Hammond Packing Company for their livelihood. When it ceased operations in 1904, many sought em-

THE INTERIOR OF ST. CASIMIR CHURCH REDECORATED AND RENOVATED IN 1963.

ployment at the Chicago packing plants and thus the parish decreased in size. As a result, the parish debt began to grow. Eventually, things took a turn for the better so that when Father Kahellek took leave of St. Casimir's for St. Hedwig's, Gary, in 1909, the parish numbered 120 families and the debt stood at little over a thousand dollars.

The short pastorate of Rev. John Kasprzykowski (1909-1911) was marked by the installation of electric lights in the church and a central heating plant. Additional property was purchased and the parish again began to prosper. *(contd next page)*

(St. Casimer Parish contd)

In 1911, the Rev. Felix Seroczynski became pastor of this slow-growing flock (about 200 families). Untroubled and undaunted, the parish began a building program which included a new rectory (1920), the remodeling of the old rectory (1922), the laying of the foundation for a new church (1923), and its completion in 1925. The cornerstone of this modified English-gothic structure which still dominates the skyline of the northern approaches to Hammond, was blessed by the late Bishop Paul Rhode of Green Bay Wisconsin, on August 17, 1924. The late Archbishop of the Fort Wayne Diocese, John F. Noll, then a monsignor, delivered the English sermon. The interior of the imposing Church was completed by 1928 under the Rev. John Hosinski, who became pastor in 1927.

Under the guidance of Father Hosinski the building program continued with a new school building and hall. Altar furnishings, statues and other church accessories were added through the generosity of the parishioners.

On August 15, 1932, the Rev. John Biernacki became the shepherd of St. Casimir parish and continued in this office until his death. His was a pastorate filled with untiring zeal for his flock. The parish grew and prospered under his kind and protecting eye. Ever mindful of the needs of his enlarging flock, he initiated another building program which saw the construction in 1951 of new and ample living quarters for the Franciscan Sisters. Again, he did not rest when he realized the need for larger facilities for the students of the parochial school. As a result, looking to the future, he broke ground for the new half-million dollar school addition in 1955. After providing for his flock, the good and faithful steward was taken to his eternal reward on August 6, 1960, having labored at St. Casimir's parish for nearly 28 years.

The legacy of Monsignor Biernacki was a flock of well over a thousand families and near to five thousand members. For this large metropolitan parish a great honor was in store. This came with the appointment of the present shepherd, the Rt. Rev. Stanley Zjawinski, who was then pastor of St. Adalbert, Whiting, and vicar general of the infant diocese of Gary. His selection by Bishop Andrew G. Grutka was indeed an acknowledgement of St. Casimir's importance as one of the truly outstanding parishes of the diocese. On September 15, 1960, the new pastor took up his residence at St. Casimir's and energetically took up his new assignment.

Under his direction the church has been beautifully furnished and redecorated to meet the modern needs of the large metropolitan parish of St. Casimir; a library was added to the school; parking lot-playground was enlarged and paved.

In 1963, the parish has also been honored by the elevation of its pastor to the rank of Protonotary Apostolic. *(contd next page)*

OUR ASSISTANTS

1912-1913	Rev. Ignatius Gapczynski	1932-1945	Rev. Joseph Lesniak
1914-1916	Rev. John Hosinski	1940-1943	Rev. Walter Mastej
1916-1917	Rev. Theophil Chemma	1944-1960	Rev. Casimir Senderak
1917-1920	Rev. Michael Gadacz	1945-1958	Rev. Henry Smartz
1920	Rev. Anthony Nadolny	1958	Rev. Thaddeus Plawecki
1920-1921	Rev. Michael Urbanski	1960-1965	Rev. Anthony Balczun
1921-1925	Rev. Julian Doktor	1962-1963	Rev. Henry Govert
1927-1930	Rev. Louis Bozyk	1962-1963	Rev. Edward Ramesh
1930-1931	Rev. Louis Ratajczak	1963	Rev. Joseph Niezgoda
1931-1932	Rev. Stanley Cak	1965	Rev. Emil Bloch

(St. Casimer Parish contd)

Today, we are indeed proud of St. Casimir's Parish, the mother-parish of then churches in Lake County, with our beautiful Church, modern school, pleasant and spacious convent; plans are presently in the making for a new rectory to serve the needs of the faithful even more effectively in the future. The present total property evaluation is in the vicinity of 2.5 million dollars. The parish numbers about 1500 families; in recent years the enrollment of the parochial school was in the neighborhood of a thousand students. The parish has given three sons to the service of God in the Priesthood and thirty-one daughters to the Sisterhood.

OUR SISTERS

Rev. Mother Emilie

Sister M. Eustachia
Sister M. Victoria
Sister M. Thaddea
Sister M. Ottilia
Sister M. Dorothea
Sister M. Sebastian
Sister M. Hortulana
Sister M. Seraphia
Sister M. Cleta
Sister M. Germana
Sister M. Loretta
Sister M. Michaela
Sister M. Cassiana
Sister M. Dionora
Sister M. Libosa
Sister M. Rosalinda
Sister M. Palladia
Sister M. Florentina
Sister M. Bronisla
Sister M. Bonosia
Sister M. Epiphania
Sister M. Bonavita
Sister M. Wencesla
Sister M. Redempta
Sister M. Cunigundis
Sister M. Optata
Sister M. Victoriana
Sister M. Bertilla
Sister M. Rosula
Sister M. Cyrilla
Sister M. Stanisla
Sister M. Odila
Sister M. Amica
Sister M. Casimiris
Sister M. Prima
Sister M. Balbina
Sister M. Pionia
Sister M. Aurea
Sister M. Louisina
Sister M. Evangelista
Sister M. Otholia
Sister M. Aureliana
Sister M. Nothburga
Sister M. Gratiosa
Sister M. Feliciana
Sister M. Honoriana
Sister M. Avelina
Sister M. Ursula
Sister M. Barnaba

Sister M. Gracilia
Sister M. Clarita
Sister M. Elizabethine
Sister M. Perpetua
Sister M. Tiburtia
Sister M. Casimira
Sister M. Fridolina
Sister M. Alba
Sister M. Anna Francis
Sister M. Agnita
Sister M. Laurentina
Sister M. Ewaldina
Sister M. Deodigna
Sister M. Paula
Sister M. Domicilla
Sister M. Celina
Sister M. Cordula
Sister M. Magella
Sister M. Concordia
Sister M. Methodia
Sister M. Lambertilla
Sister M. Edmondine
Sister M. Regina
Sister M. Martha
Sister M. Theodorita
Sister M. Raymundina
Sister M. Elreda
Sister M. Sigmunda
Sister M. Tarcisia
Sister M. Elizabethine
Sister M. Seraphine
Sister M. Simplicia
Sister M. Aquila
Sister M. Eulalia
Sister M. Cassiana
Sister M. Rosula
Sister M. Speranda
Sister M. Bernella
Sister M. Clarice
Sister M. Andrea
Sister M. Francella
Sister M. Juliana
Sister M. Illuminata
Sister M. Barbara
Sister M. Christine
Sister M. Denise
Sister M. Walterann
Sister M. Gabriel
Sister M. Tiburtia

Sister M. Marcellita
Sister M. Marietta
Sister M. Edgara
Sister M. Michael Ann
Sister M. Alrida
Sister M. Seraphine
Sister M. Lorene
Sister M. Maxine
Sister M. Eurosia
Sister M. Aquinina
Sister M. Imelda
Sister M. Egfrieda
Sister M. Leonita
Sister M. Mariella
Sister M. Blanche
Sister M. Ignatiana
Sister M. Theresa Ann
Sister M. Rita Francis
Sister M. Loretta
Sister M. Joseph Ann
Sister M. Judith
Sister M. Theonita
Sister M. Monica Rose
Sister M. Fidentia
Sister M. Louise
Sister M. Hortensia
Sister M. Joelene
Sister M. Ann Bernadette
Sister M. Rosarie
Sister M. Christine
Sister M. Theresa
Sister M. Mark
Sister M. Mary Joseph
Sister M. Geraldine
Sister Margaret Mary
Sister M. Paul
Sister M. Norman
Sister M. Juleen
Sister M. Helen Ann
Sister M. Raphael
Sister M. Accursia
Sister M. Lucinia
Sister M. Antonia
Sister M. Paschal
Sister M. Estelle
Sister M. Paulita
Sister M. Jean Marie
Sister M. Eileen
Sister M. Elenora

THE "CURIETTES" — PNA MADAME CURIE CIRCLE NO. 3134, GARY

Margaret Gregorczyk, Christine Hrbota, Karan Hrbota, Dann Mihalic, Pamela Mihalic, Cheryl Pesdan, Marsha Pesdan, Carol Sier. JUNIOR GROUP: Christine Bently, Eleanor Butowski, Melissa Churley, Angeline Korus, Ann Korus, Irene Ostrowski, Nancy Vode, Lorrie Waiss.

THE GIEWONT GROUP
ODROWAZ PODHALANSKI CLUB

Left to Right
Bottom Row
J. Bafia, W. Walus, S. Chowaniec, J.Komperda, Duda, S. Ciesla, L. Lesnicki.
2nd Row L. to R.
Mary Ann Chowaniec, Helena Bielak, Anna Komperda, Stefania Toczek, Sophie Hreska, Sophie Bafia, Janina Duda.
3rd Row L. to R.
Musicians
S. Habas, W. Zarycki, F. Kinnick, W. Szczechowicz.

They present to the public the Polish Mountaineers in the Millennium Program.

BARBARA BANASIKOWSKI'S DANCING GROUP
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Barbara Banasikowski, Liz Grzendzielewski, Judy Martinich, Susan Perry, Mary Powell, Susan Zanski, Conrad Brzostowicz, Gregory Jatczak, Jerome Maczka, Paul Maczka, Conrad Sobczak, Tony Sobczak, accompanist: Karen Kasprzyk

THE GARY GARLAND DANCERS

In the Millennium Program, they will present the colorful and sentimental KUYAVIAK dance.

First Row: Joyce Noskoski, Stasia Mastalski
Second Row Maryann Komendera, Jackie Peck, Diane Lelek.
Third Row: Mary Nowesnick, Theresa Kolczak, Maryann Pieczarka, Maryann Kubiak.

MILLENNIUM CHORUS

To further enhance the spiritual and cultural celebrations commemorating the Polish Millennium of Christianity in the Diocese of Gary, a one hundred fifty member "Millennium Chorus" was organized by the Polish Clergy Millennium Cultural Committee under the direction of the Reverend Bernard Ciesielski, Superior of the Discalced Carmelite Fathers Monastery in Munster.

In July, 1965, it was announced that plans and preparations were being developed for a cultural program to be held in May, 1966 which would present the highlights of Poland's history together with the splendors of its cultural and religious development through the ten centuries, with special emphasis on Polish music, both spiritul and popular. For this purpose a chorus was being organized and an appeal was made to all lovers of music and singing, who were able to read Latin and Polish, enroll.

Members of various parishes in the diocese enthusiastically responded and by August rehearsals were begun, these being held every two weeks at St. Casimir School in Hammond. We are deeply grateful to Right Reverend Monsignor Stanley F. Zjawinski, V.A., P.A., pastor of St. Casimir Church, who generously offered the use of his school hall for the rehearsals.

Election of officers highlighted the first meeting of the choir and the following officers were chosen to head the group: president, Mr. Stanley Skawinski, East Chicago; vice-president, Mr. Sigmund Golan, East Chicago; recording secretary, Mrs. Stanley Losinski, Gary; financial secretary and librarian, Mrs. Joseph Kuzell, Hammond; treasurer, Mrs. Walter Jarosz, Hobart; publicity, Mrs. Albert Torok, Munster.

With the encouragement of Father Ciesielski, a cultural committee headed by Miss Helen Rzepka was soon organized and to date members and friends have attended the Poznan Choir and Krakow Choir Concerts. The convenience of ticket reservations and transportation availability afforded by these projects has brought much praise from area music lovers.

At Christmas time the traditional Oplatek Party was held at which all members shared in the breaking of the Christmas wafer and exchange of good wishes.

The Millennium Chorus is composed of residents from Whiting, East Chicago, Hammond, Highland, Munster, Gary, Hobart, Crown Point, Cedar Lake, Calumet City, Hegewisch and Roseland. Our group represents a combined effort of men, women and teenagers, all uniting to retain their Polish culture and heritage. Their ages range from 16 to 70 and the roster includes many sets of sisters, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, mothers and daughters, parents and children.

On May 1st the choir members sponsored a professionally-decorated float and eight decorated cars in the Millennium Parade and also participated in the 'Mass of Thanksgiving' which was celebrated at the Gary Holy Angels Cathedral by the Most Reverend Andrew G. Grutka, Bishop of Gary.

The members of the Millennium Chorus are indeed fortunate to have as their organizor and choir director the talented and inspirational Father Bernard Ciesielski, OCD. Father Ciesielski has spared no effort in preparing for our Millennium Year Celebrations and has given much of his time, energy and untiring devotion towards the success of the choir.

The future of the Millennium Chorus is still undetermined but is is the hope of many that have found, furthered, and deepened friendships here that this fine organization will be kept alive.

Jan Czubski

MODLITWA JAGIEŁŁY

Boże, Ty serca mego znasz pokorę,
Bo tajne myśli wszystkich ludzi znasz,
Ja Ciebie dzisiaj na świadectwo biorę,
A Ty świadectwo tylko prawdzie dasz:

Że do tej wojny nie dałem powodu,
Ani się do niej uskwapliwie wziął,
Lecz wróg przez krzywdy mojego narodu
Gwałtem mnie zmusił, bym za oręż wziął!

On lud niewinny pobił, pomordował,
Lud, który Panie zdałeś pod mą piecz,
Świątynie Twoje złupił, popsował.

A ja krzywdy tyle, zlane krwią, i łzami,
Mamże przepuścić Boże, Ojcze, nasz?
Racz sam rozeznać dziś pomiędzy nami,
I kto ma lepszą sprawiedliwość wskaż.

Ufny w mą słuszność, o Panie, podnoszę
Na wrogów moich sztandar w imię Twe;
Was wszyscy Święci, przyczyńcie się, proszę.

A Ciebie, Boże, błagam, wesprzyj mnie!
Błagam, wesprzyj mnię.
A Ciebie, Boże, błagam, błagam,
Wesprzyj mię!

MILLENNIUM CHORUS

Director -- Rev. Bernard Ciesielski

WOMEN'S SECTION

Andry, Helen

Baran, Emma
Bajkowski, Helen
Balon, Adeline
Bazan, Bernice
Bielewicz, Ann
Bilska, Halina
Boguslawski, Ann
Borgetti, Annette

Ciesielski, Wanda
Czerny, Christine

Derwinski, Julie
Dobbs, Wanda

Fabos, Stella
Falasz, Bernice
Frankiewicz, Bernice
Frankiewicz, Cecilia
Frankiewicz, Cynthia
Frankiewicz, Rita
Frankowski, Lillian
Freeman, Josephine

Gerdich, Melanie
Glowacki, Catherine
Goszewski, Jean
Grabek, Adele
Grembowicz, Constance

Hecht, Anna

Jackomis, Leona
Jameyfield, Angela
Jarmakowicz, Victoria
Jarosz, Jeanne
Jaskolka, Clara
Jaskolka, Jill

Kelly, Bernadine
Klapkowski, Alice
Klosek, Ludwika
Konetski, Kathryn
Kozlowski, Harriet
Kralis, Irene
Krasowski, Irene
Krawczyk, Anna
Krawczyk, Victoria
Kryzanski, Sophie
Kurek, Mary
Kuziel, Bernice
Kuziel, Fran
Kuzell, Rose

Lesniewski, Jeanne
Lewandowski, Stella
Lisek, Evelyn
Liszczak, Claire
Losinski, Ginny
Losinski, Lillian
Losinski, Mary
Lozinski, Elaine
Lukacek, Lucille

Malak, Julia
Marbach, Lorraine
Matthews, Nell
Melevage Bernadette
Melevage, Gladys
Melyon, Eleanore
Meyer, Helen
Misiukiewicz, Cecylia
Modrowski, Rita
Mondrzak, Harriet
Mroch, Helen

Novak, Mary

O'Donnell, Valerie
Opaluch, Louise

Paluch, Mary
Pelka, Elizabeth
Pazanin. Elizabeth
Pesdan. Lillian
Piekarz, Lillian
Ponzo, Estelle

Rzepka, Helen
Rzepka, Janet
Rzepka, Melanie

Sikora, Mary
Shuman, Theresa
Sliwa, Victoria
Sejda, Irene
Sejda, Mary
Sobolewski, Julia
Spudich, Helen
Spudich, Victoria
Surofka, Bernice
Szklarski, Harriet

Tokarz, Barbara
Torok, Anita
Torok, Wanda
Trojanski, Irene
Tylicki, Eugenia

Walczak, Mary
Walczak, Vivian
Wood, Lillian

Zagger, Diane
Zale, Jeannette
Ziol, Irene
Zyglowicz, Catherine

MEN'S SECTION

Aklinski, Leo

Baran, William
Brzezinski, Marion
Drewno, Walter
Dunajski, Edmund

Figula, O. Rev.

Golan, Zygmunt

Kruszynski, Zygmunt
Kulpa, Don A.

Liszewski, Walter
Lukasik, Stanley

Marcisz, John
Nalewski, Stanley

Oskierko, Edward

Pawlus, Michael
Pelka, Peter
Pietka, Pius, Rev.
Porwit, Antoni

Rogowski, G. Rev.

Saklaczynski, Anthony
Schab, Edward
Sech, Thomas
Sier, Joseph
Skala, Stanley
Skawinski, Stanley
Skertic, Paul
Sobilo, Emil E.
Stanish, Stanley
Steffel, Joseph
Stefaniak, Casey
Sumara, Frank
Swatts, Alojzy

Tokarz, Al

Voyt, Max

Zurawski, Edward

GARY MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM **MAY 15, 1966 — 4:00 P. M.**

MILLENNIUM PROGRAM

"Strength through Faith"

Greetings ..... Felix A. Kaul

Narrators ..... Michael Kruglinski
Mrs. Judith Hmura McLean

Quotations ..... Miss Barbara Kubiak
Eugene Zielinski

Piano Excerpts ..... Miss Melanie Rzepka

Slides: "POLONICA", Poland's people, art, land and history ..... projected by Gary Camera

* * *

1. Gaude Mater, Polonia — "Rejoice, Oh Mother Poland" ..... Traditional, 15th century
   Millennium Chorus and orchestra. orchestra arr. — E. Yovanovich
   Rev. Bernard R. Ciesielski, O.C.D., director.
   Florence Gindl, Concertmistress.
2. Bogarodzico —oldest Polish song — Millennium Chorus ..... 11th century
3. The Warsaw Polonaise — music by T. Sygietynski ..... "Curiettes" PNA Madame Curie Circle No. 3134,
   Polish traditional ceremonial dance. Millennium Chorus and Orchestra. Gary. Lillian Pesdan, director and accompanist.
4. "Goralski" — Polish Mountaineers' Dance ..... Barbara Banasikowski's Dancing Group,
   Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
5. Psalm: "With Broken Heart and Contrite Sign" ..... Mikołaj Gomolka, A.D. 1580
6. Christmas in Poland, Carols: ..... Traditional
   a. Angels from Heaven (Wśród nocnej ciszy) — orchestra arr. E. Yovanovich
   b. Christ is born (Gdy się Chrystus rodzi) — orchestra arr. Poskanka
   Millennium Chorus and Orchestra
   Soloists: Mesdames Henry Lisek, Sigmund Misiukiewicz, Marcello Borgetti,
   Arthur Ciesielski, B. Falasz, Michael, Gerdich, Melvin Kenetski, Harry
   Krasowski, Charles Wood, Mr. Aloysius Swatts.
7. The Kuyaviak Dance — music by Wyszomirski — orchestra arr. by E. Yovanovich PWA Gr. 815 Garland Dancers, Gary. Helen
   Orchestra and the Millennium Chorus Soloists Zielinski, director, Lillian Warus, accompanist.
8. Mazurek Dabrowskiego: (Jeszcze Polska nie zginęła) Michael Oginski, 18th century
   (Gen. Dombrovski's Mazourka: "Oh, our Poland shall not perish")
   This lively song later became the Polish National Anthem.

INTERMISSION

9. a. Irving Berlin: Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor ..... Chopin Chorus Nr. 122, Polish Singers Alliance of
   b. F. Chopin: Polonaise Militaire (Polskiej Piesni czesc) America, Gary. George Kalmus, Director, Lillian
   Pesdan, accompanist.
10. F. Chopin: The Maiden's Wish (Życzenie) Solo ..... Evelyn Tolpa Lisek
    Lillian Pesdan, piano accompaniment
11. The Zbójnicki Dance — Mountaineer's Own Walking Orchestra ..... The Giewont Group, Odrowąż Podhalanski Club,
    Frank Las, Leader, Chicago, Illinois.
12. a. The Krakoviak Dance — Traditional ..... Curiettes
    b. The Oberek Dance (Oberek z Modlina) folksmelody
    Millennium Chorus Soloists and Orchestra
13. a. The Krakow Wedding, a four voice Canon (Krakowskie Wesele) ..... Feliks Nowowiejski
    b. Get Married Johnnie — a krakoviak song — (Żeń się, Jasiu) ..... H. Milek
14. Mazourka from Stanislaus Moniuszko's Opera "The Haunted Castle" ..... Curiettes
    ("Hej, uderzcie siarczyście" z opery "Straszny Dwór")
    Millennium Chorus and Orchestra
15. God Bless America ..... Irving Berlin
    Millennium Chorus, Orchestra and Ensemble

GARY, HOTEL — GARY, INDIANA **MAY 15, 1966 — 6:30 P. M.**

MILLENNIUM BANQUET

PROGRAM

Greetings	Felix A. Kaul Chairman, Millennium Committee
National Anthem	Cecilia Misiukiewicz
Polish Anthem	Aloysius Swatts
Invocation	Rt. Rev. Msgr. Stanley F. Zjawinski, P.A. Co-Chairman, Millennium Committee

DINNER

Toastmaster	Dr. Francis A. Cizon Professor, School of Social Work, Loyola University, Chicago
Song: "King Jagiello's Prayer Before the Battle of Grunwald" by J. Czubski	Henry R. Matysiak formerly associated with the Boston Opera
Address: "Polands Contribution to Western Civilization"	Dr. Daniel Buczek Professor of History, Fairfield University, Fairfield, Connecticut
Vocal Selections	Lori Starr Miss Indiana 1965-66 of the Miss Universe Pageant
Introduction of Dais Guests	
Remarks	Honorable Ray J. Madden Congressman, 1st Indiana District
Aria: from G. Verdi's Opera: "Simon Boccanegra" "The Lacerated Spirit"	Henry R. Matysiak
Address: "Poland's Contribution to the Christian World"	Rt. Rev. Msgr. Valerian Jasinski, S.T.D. Professor of Dogmatic Theology, Ss. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake, Michigan
Remarks	Most Reverend Andrew G. Grutka, D.D. Bishop of Gary
Closing Hymn: "Zdrowas Marya" (Ave Maria)	Evelyn Tolpa Lisek
Benediction	Rt. Rev. Msgr. Louis W. Michalski St. Stanislaus, Michigan City

The Banquet Program will be broadcast over Radio Station W W C A - 1270 kc. - Gary ,Indiana, from 8:00 to 10:00 P.M., through the courtesy of the Lake Broadcasting Company, Inc.

POLISH CONSTITUTION MAY 3, 1791

E x c e r p t s :

PREAMBLE - "Persuaded..that .our..common fate depends entirely upon the establishing and rendering perfect a national constitution; convinced by a long train of experience of many defects in our government, and willing to profit by the present circumstances of Europe, and by the favorable moment which has restored us to ourselves; free from the disgraceful shackles of foreign influence; prizing more than life, and every personal consideration, the political existence, external independence, and internal liberty of the nation, whose care is entrusted to us; desirous, moreover, to deserve the blessing and gratitude, not only of our contemporaries, but also of future generations; for the sake of the public good, for securing our liberty, and maintaining our kingdom and our possessions; in order to exert our natural rights with zeal and firmness, we do solemnly establish the present constitution, which we declare wholly inviolable in every part, till such period as shall be prescribed by law, when the nation, if it should think fit, and deem necessary, may alter by its expressed will such articles therein as shall be found inadequate. And this present constitution shall be the standard of all laws and statutes for the future Diets."

SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE - "All power in civil society should be derived from the will of the people, its end and object being the preservation and integrity of the state, the civil liberty, and the good order of society, on an equal scale, and on a lasting foundation. Three distinct powers shall compose the government of the Polish nation, according to the present constitution; viz:

1. Legislative power in the Sates assembled.
2. Executive power in the King and council of inspection.
3. Judicial power in jurisdiction existing, or to be established."

HUMANITARIANISM AND TOLERANCE - "We publish and proclaim a perfect and entire liberty to all people, either who may be newly coming to settle, or those who, having emigrated, would return to their native country; and we declare most solemnly, that any person coming into Poland, from whatever part of the world or returning from abroad, as soon as he sets his foot on the territory of the republic, becomes free and at liberty to exercise his industry, wherever and in whatever manner he pleases, to settle either in towns or villages, to form, and rent lands and houses, on tenures and contracts, for as long a term as may be agreed on; with liberty to remain, or to remove, after having fulfilled the obligations he may have voluntarily entered into."

RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE - "The same holy religion commands us to love our neighbors, we therefore owe to all people of whatever persuasion, peace in matters of faith, and the protection of Government; consequently, we assure, to all persuasions and religions, freedom and liberty, according to the laws of the country, and in all dominions of the Republic."

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966 One Thousand Years of Poland's Christianity Observance 1966

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   * * *

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      Marie Krasowski
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      Thomas Sech
      Joyce Sieczko
      Esther Sobieralski
      Grace Starr
      Emily Subartowicz
      Frank Watrakiewicz
      Marian Zerebecki

Oh, our Poland shall not perish
While we live to love her;
What the cruel foe has ravished
We'll regain through power.
March, march Dombrovski
From Italia's fair lanes,
Back to join the nation,
Back to Poland's broad plains.

These Committees have organized the following Millennium Celebrations:

May 1, 1966: Parade & Thanksgiving Service. May 15: Cultural Program & Banquet. May 29: Youth Day.

A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS OF SISTERS TEACHING IN POLISH PARISHES IN THE DIOCESE OF GARY, INDIANA

No Millennium book would be complete without a mention of the religious Sisters, who teach in Polish parish schools in the Diocese. Of the five religious Congregations whose members are actively engaged as teachers, three are Polish in origin. They are:

1. The Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kunegunda
2. Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis
3. Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

1. The Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kunegunda were founded in Chicago, Illinois, in 1894, by Rose Wisinska (Mother Mary Anna) and Jozefa Dudzik (Mother Mary Theresa). The Cause for the beautification of Jozefa Dudzik, Co-foundress and first Superior of the Congregation is now in progress in Rome. Members of this Congregation teach in the diocese of Gary, at St. Hedwig and Sacred Heart parish schools in Gary, Indiana, at St. Joseph and St. John Cantius parishes in East Chicago, Indiana, St. Mary's Parish in Hammond, Indiana, Sacred Heart parish in LaPorte, Indiana, and Assumption parish in New Chicago, Indiana.

2. The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis popularly known as "Jozefinki", were founded in 1901 when 46 Polish Sisters separated from the German Congregation of St. Francis in Milwaukee and formed the first Polish Province of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. In 1936 the original foundation was divided into three separate provinces, viz, the Province of St. Joseph in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, the Province of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Garfield Heights, Ohio, and the Province of the Immaculate Conception in Bartlett, Illinois.

Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Province teach in two Polish parishes in the diocese of Gary, i.e., Holy Family Parish in Gary and St. Stanislaus in East Chicago, Indiana.

3. The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth were founded in Rome in 1875. The foundress was Mary Frances Siedliska (Mother Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd). The first Polish American Province was founded July 1885 in Chicago, Illinois. The Congregation today is divided into three large provinces and one vice province totaling over 2,000 members. Sisters of the Congregation teach in St. Adalbert parish school in Whiting, Indiana.

The two remaining Congregations, whose members teach in Polish parishes, i.e., School Sisters of Notre Dame and the Poor Sisters of St. Francis Seraph of the Perpetual Adoration are not of Polish origin but many of their members are of Polish ancestry.

The School Sisters of Notre Dame were founded in Munich, Bavaria in 1833. The first American foundation was started in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1847. More than seven hundred of the professed Sisters are of Polish ancestry and are engaged as teachers in parochial schools affiliated with the Polish parishes. School Sisters of Notre Dame teach at St. Stanislaus Kostka parish in Michigan City, Indiana.

The Poor Sisters of St. Francis Seraph of the Perpetual Adoration were founded in Ope, Westphalia by Mother Mary Theresia Bonzel. The first American foundation was established in Lafayette, Indiana, in 1875. Sisters of this Congregation teach at St. Casimir's school in Hammond, Indiana.

To commemorate Poland's Millennium of Christianity – the eight grade pupils of all parochial schools affiliated with Polish parishes in the diocese of Gary, took part in an essay contest. The title of the essay was "What the Millennium means to me." The winners will be announced at the Youth Day Celebration at the Polonia Youth Camp at Crown Point, Indiana, May 29th, 1966.

HISTORY OF GROUP 429, P.W.A. OF AMERICA

The Society of Immaculate Conception, Polish Women's Alliance of America, Group 429, at Joseph's Parish in East Chicago, Indiana, was organized November 5, 1924, by Bertha Breclaw. Twenty-four members signed the charter.

The first meeting was held November 9, 1924, at St. Stanislaus Hall. Emilia Napieralski, President of the P.W.A. of America, and Right Reverend Monsigor Julian Skrzypinski, P.A., spoke to the organized members.

The first officers were: Hedwig Kosinski, president; Mary Rudecki, vice-president; Helen Koscielniak, financial secretary; Helen Jamrozy, recording secretary; Helen Bobin, treasurer; Clara Wohaldo, and and Janina Rakowski, auditors; Florence Buzinski, visitor of the sick and Anna Pepkowski, sergeant-at-arms.

Four years later, January 18, 1928, St. Theresa Garland 315 was organized by Helen Koscielniak with17 members.

The group and garland strive to participate in all causes for the betterment of our community, state and church.

Over the period of 42 years of existence, the group has donated $8,033.11 to cultural, national, religious and charitable drives. During World War 11, members contributed many hours of work with the American Red Cross for the boys overseas.

At present there are 198 adult and 117 juvenile members. The members hold $192,400 in life and endowment insurance. Current group administration consists of Sophie Buzinski, president for 38 years; Helen Smith, financial secretary who has served in various offices for 40 years; Ligoria Wohadlo, recording secretary for 39 years; Emily Mysliwy, treasurer for 20 years; Vickie Zaleski, vice-president; Irene Wojcik and Mamie Walczak, audit committee and Julie Tucak, garland counselor. Carol Rutkowski, garland instructor, works to keep Polish culture alive teaching the children folk dancing, singing, and recitations for various occasions and youth conferences.

Sophie Buzinski

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA
AVA MARIA SOCIETY — GROUP NO. 430
Indiana Harbor, Indiana

On October 24, 1924, the Ave Maria Society was founded in Indiana Harbor, Indiana, by Mrs. Helen Sambor, a Director of the Supreme Board of the Polish Women's Alliance.

The purpose of the Society was to unite Polish women in a fraternal organization; to help them acquire a greater knowledge of Polish art and history; and to provide the members with an opportunity for social and cultural contacts.

The Society was organized with twenty-five young ladies and a Garland, or juvenile branch, of fifteen girls. Today, there are two hundred adult members. The fifty children in the Garland participate in such activities as learning Polish and American folk dances and songs, taking part in public programs, and attending conferences and activities sponsored by the Polish Women's Alliance of America.

The Ave Maria Society makes annual contributions to the American Red Cross, the Crippled Children's Fund, the Old People's Home, various Catholic institutions, the Polish Women's Alliance Charity Fund and other worthy causes.

The First Administration was: Helen L. Sambor, President; Rozalia Kluga, Vice-President; Irene Pawlowska, Financial Secretary; Emilia Karp, Recording Secretary; Walerya Mackowiak, Treasurer; Wanda Lawnicka, Cecylia Paszkiewicz, Florntyna Pawlowska, Trustees.

The Present Administration is: Helen L. Sambor, President; Walerya Walesiak, Vice-President; Jozefa Kulka, Financial Secretary; Harriet Krygier, Recording Secretary; Catherine Glowacki, Treasurer; Helene A. Sambor and Stella Fabos Trustees.

Front: Waleria Walesiak, Helen Sambor, Jozefa Kulka
Rear: Harriet Krygier, Catherine Glowacki

POLISH UNION OF AMERICA

ST. BARBARA GROUP NO. 339

St. Barbara Group No. 339 Polish Union of America was organized May 11, 1929, in East Chicago, Indiana.

Silver Anniversary Banquet was held May 23, 1954, at Memorial Hall in East Chicago, Indiana.

Days of Retreat are attended at the Carmelite Monastery, 1628 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana.

OFFICERS FOR 1966

Mary Miklusak	President
Josephine Kurowski	Vice-President
Lillian Miklusak	Financial Secretary
Sophie Simale	Recording Secretary
Helen Skowronski	Treasurer
Corinne Loda	Director
Catherine Czerkas	Director

P.N.A. GROUP 1810 HISTORY

Fifty years ago Lodge 1810 was organized in East Chicago by Joseph Wleklinski, Adalbert Lesniak, Anthony Kubal, Louis Bac and Aloysius Wleklinski, to increase the rank and file of the Polish National Alliance, the fastest growing Polish American fraternal order in the United States. The immediate purpose was to facilitate further growth of the organization and the pursuance of its goals.

The Lodge, consisting of 32 members, and receiving consecutive Number 1810, was admitted to the Polish National Alliance by its Board of Directors on April 2, 1915.

From the very inception of the Lodge, its small group of members began to work with enthusiasm and dedication for the benefit of the organization and American Polonia. It was a very vital and patriotic group and soon it gained the confidence and co-operation of Polonia and of other fraternal orders. Three other, less active Lodges joined it at later dates.

Lodge 1946, organized by Stanley Bober, Adolph Rogoz, Ignatius Wrona, was admitted to the PNA by the Board of Directors on November 3, 1916, and joined Lodge 1810 in February, 1938. At that time there already existed in East Chicago another PNA Group, known as Lodge 862, organized by Andrew Chrostowski, Adalbert Piotrowski, Anthony Forman, John Stasko and Vincent Lorenc, and admitted to PNA by the Board of Directors on June 17, 1907. This Lodge joined forces in November, 1937, with Lodge 2509, organized by Casimir Podkul, John Fitak, Frank Kowalski, Frank Mierzwa, and Casimir Gorny and was admitted to PNA on February 5, 1929.

As a consequence of these actions, there remained two instead of four PNA Lodges in East Chicago, namely Lodge 1810 and Lodge 2509. Both have been cooperating for the benefit of Polonia throughout the next 16 years. Bearing in mind that "there is strength in unity", these Lodges decided to unite into one powerful group. Thus Lodge 2509 joined Lodge 1810 in February, 1954.

From the moment of the union of these two groups, Lodge 1810 became a dominant group in East Chicago with 360 members who formerly belonged to four different Lodges. Through dedicated work for the benefit of America, Poland and Polonia, Lodge 1810 set a pattern for other organizations to follow.

Aware of the value of sports for our youth, Lodge 1810 took an important part in the Polish Scout movement supported, at that time, by the Polish National Alliance. In October, 1958, the Lodge negotiated with Sports Club Syrena, which sponsors a soccer ball team, an agreement aimed to further development of sports activities in conjunction with PNA membership. The results of this agreement are gratifying. In addition, in order to increase the number of instructors in youth movement and particularly in folk dancing and singing, the Lodge sent two of its members, Irene Kaszkur and Stella Prygon to Youth Instructor's Course at Alliance College in Cambridge Springs, Pa., in 1964.

It should also be stressed here that Lodge 1810 closely cooperates with the Indiana Division of the Polish American congress in Indiana, to Polish radio programs in Gary and Hammond, and to the Polish press. As the needs develop the Lodge co-operates with all Polish American organizations in sociological and political levels of activity. In 1955, the Lodge proposed and supported in PNA Council 83 the Building Committee of Dom Polski in East Chicago. However, this proposal was discontinued on December 31, 1964.

In addition to activities to promote the growth of the Polish National Alliance, the Lodge set as one of the main points of its ideological program, an aid to compatriots not only in America, but also abroad. During World War II it gave considerable material aid to Polish invalids, who were left destitute in Western Europe and especially in West Germany after the cessation of hostilities. It gave considerable aid to elementary school No. 8 in Warsaw and helped in restoration of the parochial church in Bebelno, Poland. The Lodge did not forget the Polish displaced persons, who came to America as "new immigrants" after World War II. Many of them were enrolled in the Polish National Alliance and the Lodge had 70 new arrivals, well qualified for leadership in ideological fields of endeavor.

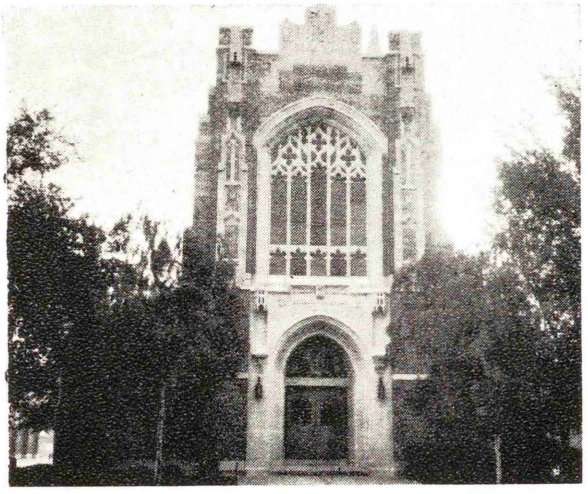
These Lodge attainments were made possible through the good will of the membership and dedication of its officers. Among them, honorable mention should be given to: the late Stanley Bober, founder of Lodge 1946, regional organizer since 1916 until his death in 1964, signer of over 350 new members, delegate to the PNA Convention, and a member of Visitation, Youth and Scouting Committees; Casimir Podkul, PNA member since 1913, delegate to a PNA Convention, founder of Lodge 2509, with over 200 new enrollments. Both the late Mr. Bober and Mr. Podkul were officers of the Lodge at all levels of its administration. Stanley Hap, PNA member since 1925, Financial Secretary of the Lodge since 1928 and now its treasurer; he signed up nearly 150 new members. Casimir Marjanski, twice a delegate to PNA Conventions, Vice-President of the lodge for 9 years; its secretary for 4 years, and President of Council 83 for 4 years. Mr. Marjanski has been a PNA member since 1954 and has enrolled over 25 new members to the organization.

Lodge Presidents up to jubilee time were: Joseph Wleklinski (1915-1937), John Sumara (1938-1940), Jan Komar (1941-1949), John Borowiec (1950-1953), Joseph Markowski (1954), Stanley Bober (1955-1957), Casimir Podkul (1958-1965). The Vice-Presidents were: John Gajda (1941-1943, Frank Wierzbinski (1944-1949), John Gruszkos (1950-1952), Joseph Markowski (1953), Casimir Podkul (1954-1957), Casimir Marjanski (1958-1965), Helen Walaszek (1962-1963), and Antonina Prygon (1964-1965). Finanical secretary and now also a treasurer is Stanley Hap (1928-1965). Recording Secretaries were: Stanley Bober (1938-1953), John Kaszkur (1954-1965) and Treasurerers were Ignatius Wrona (1938-1954 and John Borowiec (1955-1956).

Current Lodge administration consists of: Casimir Podkul, President; Casimir Marjanski, Vice-President; Antonina Prygon, Vice-President; Stanley Hap, Financial Secretary and Treasurer; John Kaszkur, Recording Secretary; John Maciolek, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Audit Committee: Charles Chodecki, Stanley Leja, Stefan Goralczyk, Michal Mysliwy, and Joseph Markowski.

Facets of Our Diamond - 1965

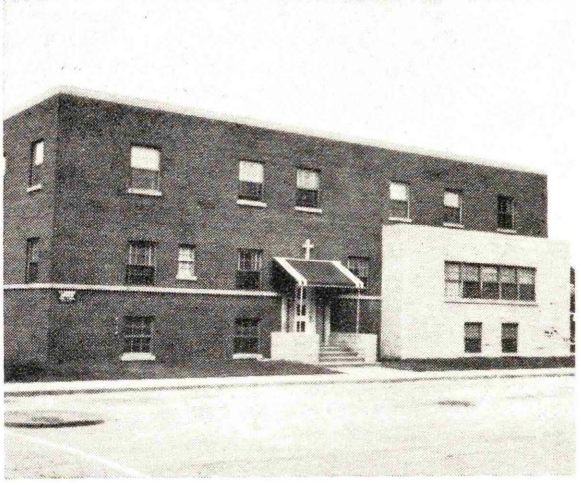
ST. CASIMIR PARISH
HAMMOND, INDIANA



OUR CHURCH — BUILT IN 1924

OUR SCHOOL — BUILT IN 1955

OUR RECTORY — BUILT IN 1920



OUR CONVENT — BUILT IN 1951

HISTORY OF

ST. MARY PARISH IN HAMMOND

Polish immigrants in this freeland of ours, including the first settlement of Polish craftsmen in Jamestown have always lived up to their traditional motto "God, Honor and Country." Deeply rooted in their devotion to God and love of freedom to worship, they organized many parishes, at first predominantly Polish, because of the language barrier, and primarily because of the instilled love of their native land with many of its fine cultural and religious traditions. Polish religious hymns, songs and sermons linked them spiritually with the Motherland.

Similarly in the eastern part of Hammond in the year 1912, thru the initiative of Rev. Felix Seroczynski, the pastor of St. Casimir Parish in Hammond, and with the unselfish cooperation of the First Parish Committee, initial steps were taken to build a church in this region.

According to the treasured parish records the following members served on the First Committee: Joseph Kolanko, Frank Lesniewski, Martin Kocal, Peter Sopata, and Anton Zalot.

. . . among the organizers we find names: John Bernacki, John Beczkaj, John Bien, Vincent Chmielewski, Anton Czuba, John Czurzytek, J. Duraj, Joseph Gasparovich, Frank Jasinski, Andrew Kilarski, Stanley Kolanko, Michael Lukowski, Wojciech Mroz, Frank Mucha, John Niemiec, Joseph Nozka, Radzimski, John Rosowicz, Anthony Salczynski, S. Skuraczewski, Anthony Standarski, Joseph Stodola, Vincent Witkowski and Mark Worosz.

Chronology:

March 17, 1912 — a plot of land was purchased for the new Church named in honor of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

September 12, 1912 — Rev. Peter Budnik, pastor of St. Stanislaus parish officiated at the ground breaking ceremonies.

December 25, 1912 — Rev. F. Seroczynski celebrated the First Holy Mass in the new church.

January 16, 1913 — Rev. Anthony Gorek named the first permanent pastor. First school and rectory erected under his guidance.

1915 - 1926: Rev. John Chylewski pastor.

1926 - 1931: Rev. Ignatius Gapczynski, pastor.

1931 - 1939: Rev. Ladislaus Szczukowski, pastor. In 1938, for the benefit of the American born generation, a third Mass was added on Sundays with a sermon in the English language.

1939 - 1962: Rev. Joseph Zobel, pastor. With improving economic conditions, the parish showed its greatest growth. Payment of outstanding debts, renovation of parish buildings, building a most modern school building and auditorium . . . are indicative of more prosperous times. With the acquirement of an assistant priest and doubling the number of Masses on Sundays, the Polish-English speaking priests were able to meet the spiritual needs of the parishioners.

In 1962, a prolonged and lingering illness caused the retirement of the pastor, Rev. Joseph Zobel.

Father Casimir Senderak served briefly as pastor before his permanent assignment to the Holy Family Parish in Gary

Father Anthony Balczun succeeded him in carrying on the administrative and religious duties. On July 1, 1963, Father Walter S. Mastey became pastor.

Summary:

In summarizing the history of St. Mary's parish life, it is equally important to point out the little recognized and seldom appreciated, unselfish devotion to God and their calling of the Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kunegunda, serving the parish as teachers and nuns. It is thru their patient understanding and love of children that many graduates are serving God. We have the following priests serving God in the diocese of Gary and Fort Wayne: Rev. Thomas Depa, Rev. Roman Wojcicki, Rev. Chester Zurawiec, Rev. Henry Krysinski. The following nuns are with the Community of Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kunegunda: Sister M. Hugoline Czaplinski, Sister M. Sidonia Watroba, Sister M. Hedwinalla Watroba, Sister M. Canisia Niemiec, Sister M. Ferdinand Skiba, Sister M. Tyburcia Sliwa, Sister M. Consilia Przybyl, Sister M. Nazaria Mroz, and Janet Popoditch.

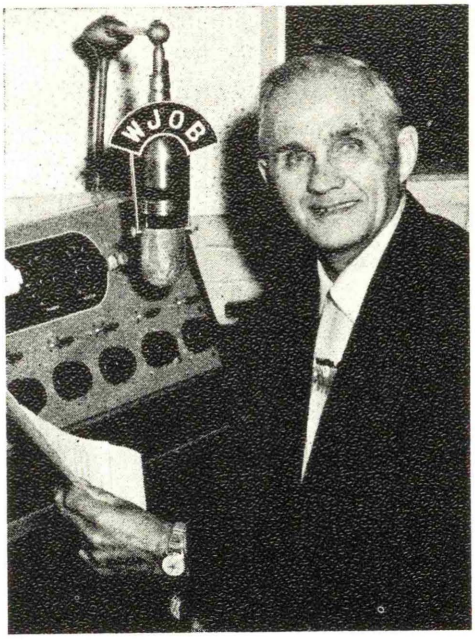
Contributing significantly to the growth of the parish were the many Church Societies and Polish American organizations. Credit for organizing the First Committee in 1911 to purchase the parish ground goes to Lodge 925 PNA, the Holy Trinity Society under the leadership of the still active president, Martin Kocal.

Lodges: 128 of the Polish Women's Alliance, and 357 of Polish Falcons organized prior to 1912, and subsequent groups 806, 807 of the Polish Roman Catholic Union, St. Therese Society 330 of the Polish Union, the St. Cecilia Choir, Ladie's Rosary and Sacred Heart Society, Holy Name Society, originally known as the St. Mary's Mens Social Club, Rosary and Altar Society, originally known as the St. Mary's Ladies Social Club, Young Ladies Sodality, Young Men's Holy Name Society and the Children of Mary, and Ladies Falcon Nest 169 greatly aided the parish in its development.

Today St. Mary's parish consists of over 500 families and the school enrollment exceeds 211. Modern school facilities and the unequalled in teaching profession zeal and devotion of the Sisters guide the children through their most difficult and most important years.

"Tempera mutantur" . . . times change, suburban style of living . . . each year fewer of the pioneers of 1912 remain among us . . . but their guiding Polish inherited motto: "God, Honor and Country" are the fundamental bases of fruitful life of the succeeding generations.

All of us gathered on this historic occasion bow our heads in reverence to our noble, sturdy Polish pioneers, to our beloved priests and nuns, to the many outstanding leaders of societies and lodges for sowing the seed which took so good a spiritual and moral root. We implore the Almighty God and the patron of this parish, St. Mary of Czestochowa, to bless them in their present and future endeavors, to serve God and Country and to instill honor in generations to come.



EDDIE OSKIERKO AND HIS "POLISH MUSICAL VARIETIES" RADIO PROGRAM

In this section of Northern Indiana Eddie Oskierko's radio program has been an indispensable feature of everybody's Sunday for the last thirty six years. Polish songs and music, news casts in Polish, public celebrations and meeting reminders, happy and sad family news, all these components of his program appeal to the Polish audience because they reflect their life, interests and likings.

When Ed started his radio career in October, 1930, at station WJKS, he found that depression had set in and his efforts in obtaining sponsors for his program at that time were not very productive. After a full day's work at the Steel Mills of South Chicago he went out calling on the business men, until finally he began to see some results of his hard work.

After seventeen months he moved his "Polish Musical Varieties" program to station WWAE, the forerunner of the present WJOB, in Hammond, Indiana, and he has been there since that time. In 1936 he began broadcasting news events in the Polish language. In 1937, he drew nearly 6,000 pieces of mail in one week on a Children's Amateur Hour program. Later, during Tony Piet's Talent Search program he received 30,000 pieces of mail, with the last week bringing 9893 cards and letters to the studio.

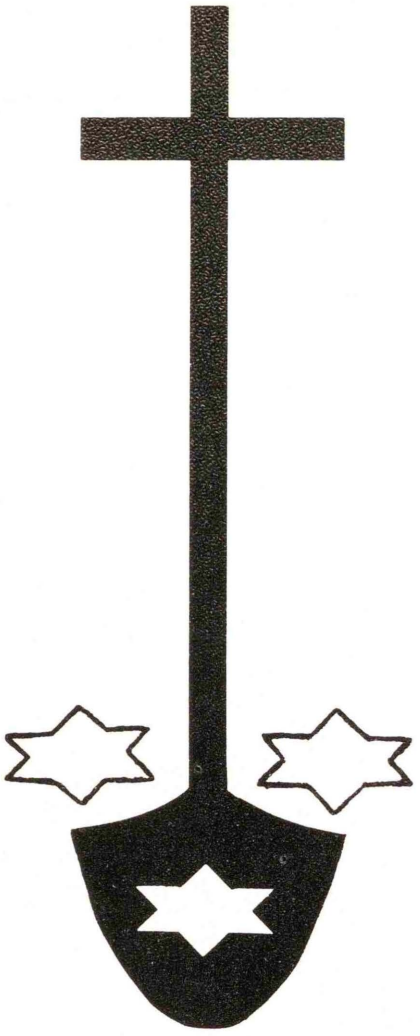
In 1949 a Conlon Survey of the Calumet area gave Eddie's Sunday afternoon "Polish Varieties" show the highest rating in the entire Chicago area. In this area, heavily populated by people of Polish descent, even today, Eddie's program, presented every Sunday from 11:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. on WJOB, 1230 kc., is one of the region's "Most Listened To" radio programs.

In 1940, under his direction, the first broadcast of a Christmas Midnight Mass from St. Casimir's Church in Hammond was an outstanding event. Later, for over two years, Masses were transmitted during his programs from St. Joseph church in Hammond. Annually for the past few years, a Solmen High Mass was broadcast from the beautiful grounds of the Carmelite Monastery in Munster, Indiana; here, the Mass is chanted at the foot of the very beautiful grotto, erected to our Heavenly Mother.

In 1954, Eddie Oskierko was named director of all Foreign Language programs at WJOB. He is vice president of the South Shore Management and of the South Shore Radio and Telephone, and is a member of the board of directors of both corporations. In 1958, he made two trips to Poland, first as a radio reporter and the second as a leader of a tour made by people from all over the Calumet area. He has since made four more trips. As a vice president and director of the "Polonia Youth Center" in Crown Point, Indiana, he has taken an active part in the work of changing over a large plot of farm land into a Youth Camp for the benefit of the youngsters of Indiana. Quite often you can hear him speaking, together with his radio announcer Walter Skibinski, about the youth and their camp.

Mr. "O", as he is called by everyone, is taking a great interest in Poland's Millennium of Christianity, being on several committees and chairman of the Millennium Youth Day at the Polonia Youth Center in Crown Point. He has given much of his radio time to the Millennium and was instrumental in obtaining ten five-minute periods for Millennium publicity in the English language from Mr. Julian Colby, owner of radio station WJOB in Hammond. To cap it all, Eddie Oskierko is a member of the Millennium Chorus. This proves once more that he and his program really reflect our people's aims, life and interests.

THE CARMELITES OF INDIANA



Hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, hermits lived on the slopes of Mount Carmel in Palestine; and through the prayers and penances of the great prophet Elias, their leader, the Mount was sanctified. Even today, on this sacred spot, God's praises are chanted by Discalced Carmelite Friars.

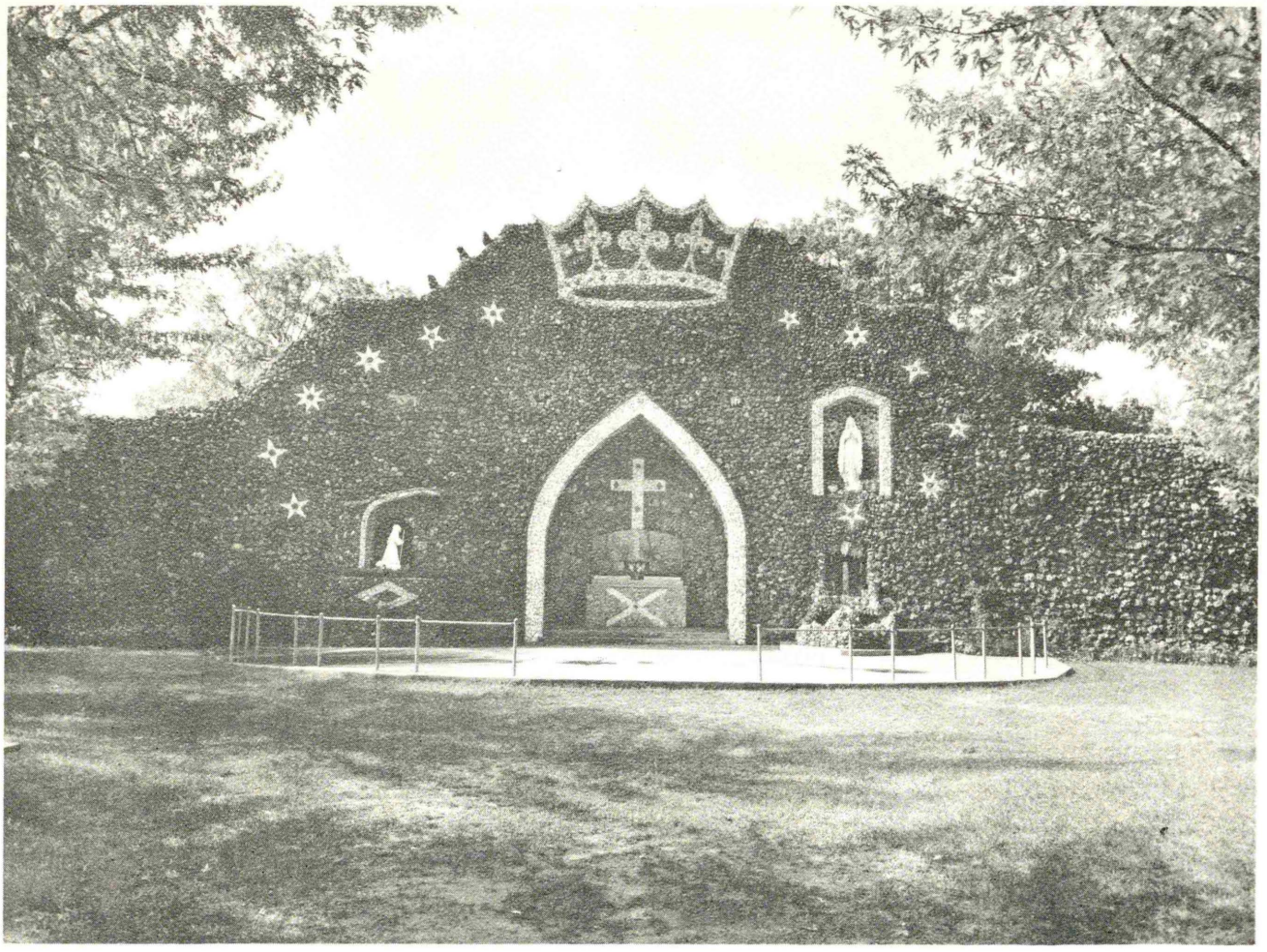
In order to escape persecution from bands of Turks, the religious fled to Europe where they were faced with possible extinction; the Carmelites, newly reorganized as mendicants, were strangers to the tightly-knit medieval society.

In the sixteenth century, Teresa of Avila, a Spanish Carmelite nun, restored the Order to its ancient spiritual splendor. John of the Cross, a newly ordained Carmelite, established under her inspiration many monasteries of men. Those who lived the ancient rule became known as Discalced (Barefoot) Carmelites.

The zeal, wisdom, and example of these two saints have led thousands to imitate their lives. Twentieth-century Discalced Carmelites live lives of prayer and penance and work for the salvation of souls. Today over 15,000 Discalced Carmelite Nuns, and over 5,000 Fathers and Brothers preserve the ancient spirit of the Prophet Elias, a spirit demanding total dedication to God in prayer and penance.

The habit worn by the Fathers and the Brothers consists of a brown tunic, a scapular, a cowl, and sandals. A white mantle is worn on special occasions, such as at the daily reception of Holy Communion, during solemn Mass and sung Office.

Standing: Rev. Christopher S. Krol, O.C.D., Rev. Bernard R. Ciesielski, O.C.D., Bro. Louis D. Sikora, O.C.D. Seated: Rev. Teresius J. Zielinski, O.C.D., Rev. Alfred J. Jarosz, O.C.D., Rev. Hyacinth W. Komendera, O.C.D.



GROTTO IN MUNSTER

Poland witnessed a most flourishing development of the Carmelite Order in that country till the tragic year of 1939. Invasions from the West and from the East, deportations to the West and to the Far East, took a heavy holocaust of lives from among the Polish Carmelites.

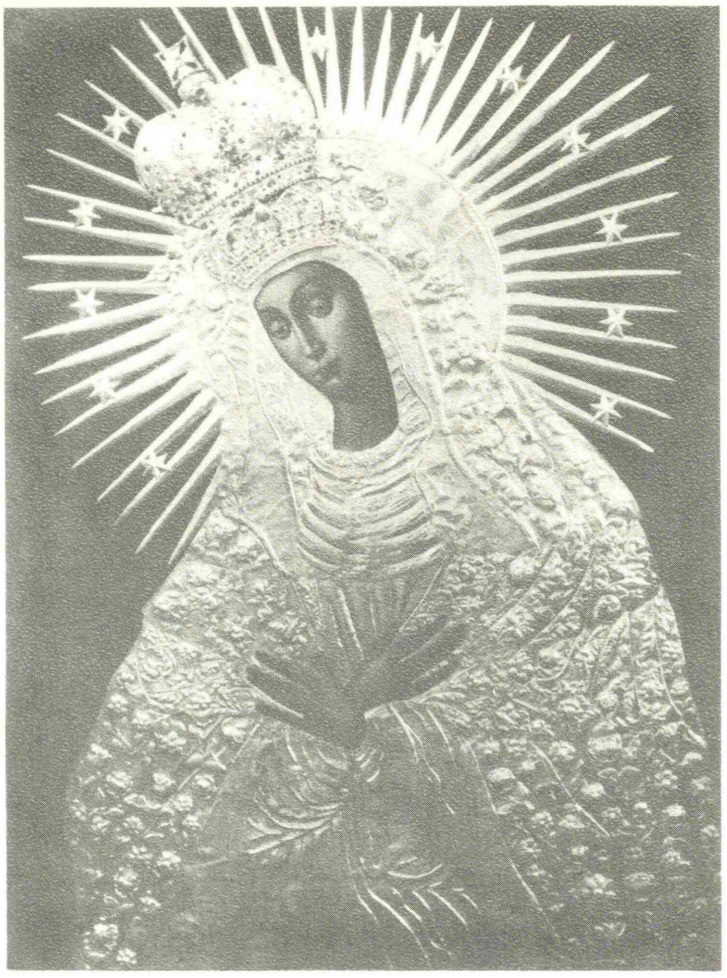
But some, many times in a miraculous way, made their way to foreign countries and joined the 200,000 Polish volunteers who were fighting under Allied command for a free world and, as they were hoping, for the final liberation of their own country. At the end of the war, disappointed, they rejected the thought of returning to their homeland given into slavery to the communists of the East. They choose far away shores to find the liberty which was always cherished above everything else by their forefathers.

Several Carmelites made their way to the United States and found a home in Hammond, Indiana, thanks to a great Church leader, archbishop John Francis Noll. Three years later, in 1952, they acquired the Mount Mercy Sanitarium on Ridge Road in Munster, which they turned into their monastery.

The shrines which the Carmelite Fathers erected at their Monastery are listed in tourist guides among the attractions of the Midwest. On Sundays, during the warm season, their chapel overflows with people who arrive, in large organized groups, even from far away places, to spend a day of recollection in the unusual environment created by the Carmelites.

Other activities of the Indiana Carmelites include preaching, helping in neighboring parishes, working in the press and radio; they offer spiritual guidance to many Polish organizations.

During the 1966 celebrations of the great jubilee, the Millennium, commemorating the one thousand years of Christianity of the Polish people, the Carmelite monastery became the headquarters and the meeting place of the many Millennium committees. This book was composed under the hospitable roof of the Carmelites.



MOTHER of MERCY, OUR LADY of OSTRA BRAMA
at Vilno, in Poland's second renowned shrine, for four centuries attended by the Carmelite Fathers.

In keeping with the fifteen hundred years old tradition, by which Christian people have been wholeheartedly supporting convents and monasteries all over the world to allow their members to dedicate themselves completely to the service of God, the East Chicago chapter of the Society of Our Lady of Mount Carmel directs its efforts to promoting the activities of the Carmelite Fathers Monastery at 1628 Ridge Road, in Munster.

The Chapter had its beginning fourteen years ago, with 100 members. The first meeting was presided over by Mrs. Helen Pienta, assisted by Mrs. Salomea Pikula and Miss Genevieve Kocur. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Salomea Pikula; Vice President, Mrs. Anna Miklusiak; Vice President, Mr. Thomas Kozlowski; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Josephine Zywiec; Financial Secretary, Miss Genevieve Kocur; Treasurer, Mrs. Helen Tokarz.

Today the membership is comprised of over 200 men and women, guided by these officers: President, Mrs. Salomea Pikula; Vice President, Mrs. Dorothy Knapik; Recording and Financial Secretary, Mrs. Antoinette Kmiecik; Treasurer, Mrs. Rose Suchy.

It is the aim of the organization to encourage its members to live in the spirit of the great, ancient Order of the Carmelites, whose devotion to Mary is so dear to the heart of every Polish man and woman. Similarly, the spirit of St. Therese, the popular Carmelite Saint of modern times, who advocated evangelical simplicity in dealing with God, is preached to the members at their yearly days of recollection at the beautiful Shrine at Munster, with its inspiring environment helping to elevate one's mind to the Creator.

Members of the East Chicago chapter helped to erect those Shrines and many perpetuated their family's name on the bronze plaques of the Shrine Founders. They are now looking forward to the new church which will be built in the near future to accommodate the large numbers of people desirous to attend retreats.

THE HISTORY OF THE

POLISH ARMY VETERANS OF AMERICA

VETERANS ASSOCIATION POST NO. 40

HAMMOND, INDIANA

The Post was organized on May 5, 1921, and was officially registered by the National Headquarters on August 22, 1921.

Immediately after that date, through very energetis efforst of the Post, their own home was built, which serves not only their own needs but also became the focal point of local Polish activities.

From the beginning till now the office of Post Commander was held by: W. Paluch, A. Wieckowski, J. Kosiba, A. Smolen, R. Dudzik, J. Wytrzymalski, K. Stankiewicz, A. Gomula, B. Borkowski, S. Domalik and A. Zietara.

Besides helping their ailing members, the Post assigns donations for the Paderewski Invalid Fund, and various welfare activities. The Post also sponsors a Boy Scout and a bowling group, and takes active part in the work of the Polish-American Congress, in the Polish Federation of Hammond, and in the Polish Youth Camp organization.

The Auxiliary, which was organized through the efforts of the State Commander J. Wytrzymalski, named Wanda Wytrzymalski its President.

The Auxiliary not only established an envious record in the work for the veterans of both wars, but also became in the annuals of the Polish Americans a symbol and example of untiring efforts in working for the good of the Polonia.

On the occasion of the Millennium we join with all the Poles all over the world in prayer for better conditions in our beloved motherland, Poland.

For the Post: Felix Wozniak, Commander; Wladyslaw Prygon, Vice Commander; Slavomir Gierymski, Recording Adjutant; Sylvester Sybilski, Financial Adjutant; Leo Zarzycki, Treasurer; Stanley Cwiklinski, Marshall.

For the Auxiliary: Paulina Cyganiewicz, President; Maria Poremba, First Vice President; Wanda Wytrzymalski, Second Vice President; Paulina Cyganiewicz, Financial Secretary; Sophie Erzyk, Recording Secretary; Ludwika Domalik, Treasurer; Anna Czop, Delegate to the Post.

HISTORY OF NEST 357 – POLISH FALCONS OF AMERICA – HAMMOND, INDIANA

Nest 357 was started December 1, 1912.

The first officers of the Nest were: Michael Lukowski - President; Wawrzyniec Kwolik - Vice President; Jan Rosowicz - Financial Secretary; Alex Szymonczyk - Recording Secretary.

At that time the Polish Falcons did not have insurance. Many immigrants became members of this society.

On April 14, 1921, Nest 357 of the Polish Falcons joined Group 1425 of the Polish National Alliance.

At that time the following officers were elected: Jan Maka, President; Wojciech Siebielec, Vice President; Wawrzyniec Kwolik, Financial Secretary; Andrew Joczek, Recording Secretary; Wojciech Pelc, Cashier.

The present officers of the Polish Falcons of America, Nest 357, and Group 1425, Polish National Alliance are: John Golec - President; George Siebielec - Vice President; Jan Derejko - Financial Secretary; Vincent Zotkiewicz - Cashier; Casimir Wojcik - Recording Secretary.

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SOCIETY — GROUP 128
Hammond, Indiana

First Row: Sophie Mis, Financial Secretary; Eugenia Kubas, Vice-President; Joanna Zotkiewicz, President; Julia Ziemba, Treasurer. Second row: Sophie Jaworski, Trustee; Magdalene Magda, Trustee; Wanda Torok, Auditor; Adele Pomes, Recording Secretary; Josephine Maciejewski, Auditor. (Absent: Mary Worosz, Trustee; Angeline Depa, Sergeant-at-Arms; Stella Olszewski, Garland Secretary)

The first major project undertaken by the group was one of true fraternal spirit. Combining its efforts with the two other existing societies, it worked diligently for the benefit of St. Mary Church which was dedicated the following year. One of the good qualities so characteristic of the Polish people is a strong and religious faith and our members strongly adhered to this principle. The parish became the nucleus of all their activities and the upholding of all religious and cultural traditions became the foremost aim of the society. Throughout the years, in addition to working ardently for the St. Mary Church and School, a total of $19,434, derived from various fund-raising projects, was donated to national, cultural, religious, and charitable organizations.

Since the first meeting the group has been increasing steadily each year, and now has a membership of 427 adults and 160 juveniles. During that time 99 members have passed away.

We now have fifth generation members of Polish descent in our group; therefore, group activities are stressed in the Polish language to keep our younger members from forgetting their Polish mother tongue heritage and all its traditions. Our Garlandettes have been inspired to keep up their Polish ancestry by participating in traditional dances, not losing sight of the folklore of their heritage. Holiday customs of our forefathers are still observed at Easter time and Christmas at our group activities and at homes of members.

At first, members devoted their energies to providing homes for their families, organizing a parish, and establishing a school. After readily adapting themselves to their new environment, those that were immigrants eagerly adopted American citizenship. We are proud that most of our members are home owners, taxpayers, and registered voters.

When the trying days of World War II arrived, our members were among the first to make their offering. They took a live, active part in all campaigns, giving blood donations, rolling bandages, soliciting funds, sponsoring clothing drives, and buying war bonds. They sacrificed many hours working with the American Red Cross and the American Relief for Poland.

Through the years, active participation in all community projects was also highly endorsed. Some of these included Hammond centennial celebrations, flower shows, patriotic parades, scout programs, county fairs, community talent shows, Labor Day celebrations, dedications, etc. We always strive to participate in all causes for the welfare and betterment of our community.

The story of the progress of Group 128 is one of unstinted devotion. Worthy mention goes to Mrs. Mary Mirdas, former Treasurer who served in that office for 25 years; Mrs. Magdalene Magda who has served in various offices for over 24 years; Mrs. Sophie Mis, capable Financial Secretary for the last 27 years who has, through her productive efforts, helped the group to attain its present membership; Mrs. Joanna Zotkiewicz, President, who is also Indiana State President. She has given over 45 years of her love and devotion to this Polish group of women as an officer in one capacity or another, helping to keep up the tradition of our Polish ancestry. Under her leadership the life and interests of our members in works of charity, in cultural developments, in education, in social welfare and betterment, has advanced incredibly.

In the future, as in the past, our members will continue to fulfill their duty to God, home, and country with loyalty, determination and enthusiasm.

The year 1911 marked the beginning of a new era of fraternal life for the young women of a small Polish community on the east side of Hammond. Recognizing the need for an organization that would work for the betterment of the church and community, as well as to provide insurance benefits, with the social features prominently kept in view, a group of zealous and patriotic women decided to form a Polish fraternal and social society.

Group #128 of the Polish Women's Alliance of America was organized by Mrs. Apolonia Stanislawska on Nov. 21, 1911, in the home of Mrs. Helen Lukowska with the following fourteen members signing the charter: Frances Kozlowska, Mary Szot, Agatha Rosowicz, Lucy Bolanowska, Katherine Wydra, Katherine Nabrzecka, Rose Mroz, Mary Mudy, Magdalene Szierzega, Mary Chmielewska, Mary Gruszka, Helen Nych, Valentina Salczynska, and Helen Kukowska. Their enthusiastic efforts have produced wonderful results. We are happy to have three of the charter members still with us, Valentina Salczynska, Mary Gruszka, and Helen Nych.

ST. ADALBERT'S CHURCH

WHITING, INDIANA

Between 1890 and 1900 there were a number of Polish people in Whiting, Indiana, who yearned for a Catholic Church of their own. In 1900 a committee approached Bishop Rademacher and presented their appeal to build a Church in this region. After careful consideration, the Bishop acceded to their request. Rev. Kahellek, pastor of St. Casimir Church in Hammond, was to help the committee with their Church building plans. This Church building was blessed by Bishop Rademacher in 1902 and given the name of St. Peter. Soon after it was changed to St. Adalbert. Father Kahellek administered the parish until 1902.

The Rev. Bishop then assigned Father Peter Budnik as the first permanent pastor of St. Adalbert's Parish in Whiting, Indiana. Father Budnik served our parish till June, 1907.

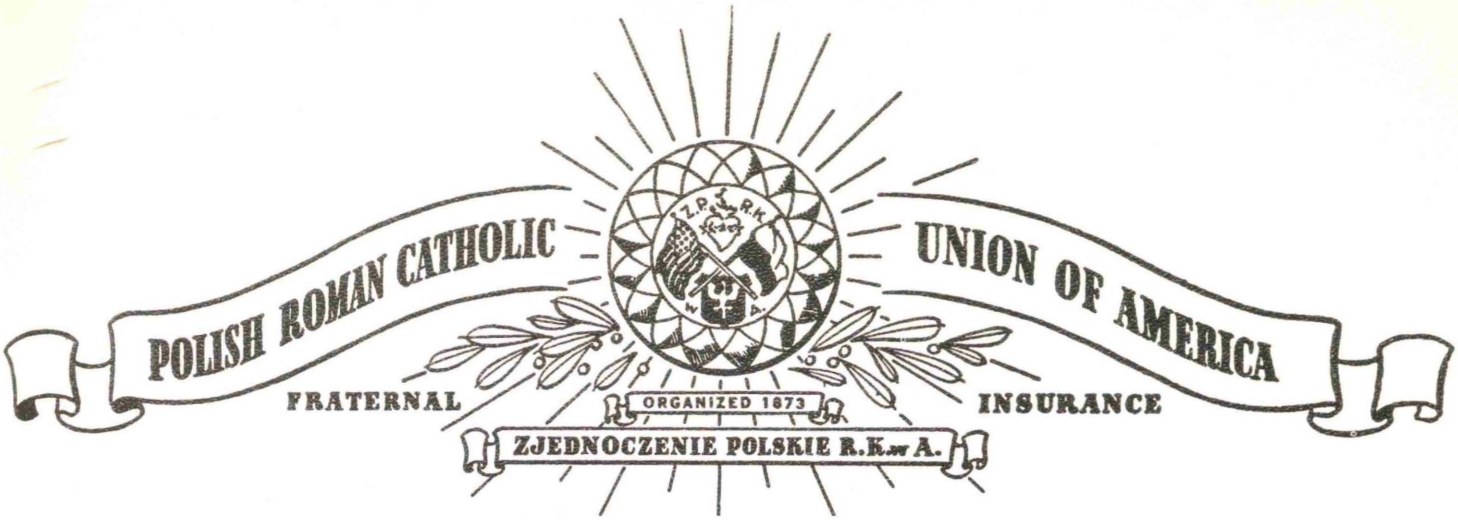
The second Pastor of St. Adalbert's was Father Felix Seroczynski. He served till 1911.

Our next Pastor was Father Julian Skrzypinski. Under his guidance a new convent was built for the Sisters of Nazareth and also an addition was made to the school building. Father Skrzypinski left in 1922. He was replaced by Father Joseph Zielinski.

In 1926 Father John Chylewski was assigned our new Pastor. It was during his stay that the Church auditorium was built.

Because of ill health, Father John was replaced by Father Walter Pawlicki. Father Pawlicki proceeded to realize the longtime dream of the parishioners —a new Church. The new Church was dedicated April 20, 1952.

In 1955 Reverend Stanley Zjawinski was assigned as Pastor. Father Zjawinski remained until 1960. At that time he was replaced by our present Pastor, Reverend Theodore A. Janicki.



POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, the oldest Polish Catholic Fraternal in America, held its first convention in Detroit, Michigan, in 1873. This "Mother of All Polish Fraternals in America, soon to celebrate its centennial of existence, is divided for administrative purposes into districts which are again apportioned into circuits composed of individual societies.

Thirty years after the first convention, the city of Whiting, Indiana, saw the establishment of the first PRCU society in the Calumet region, St. Adalbert's No. 204, named in honor of the patron of the parish in which it was founded. This was the nucleus of what was soon to emerge as Circuit 56. In 1923, those societies established in Hammond, East Chicago and Whiting became, in fact, Circuit 56. Today, it is composed of 12 societies with over 2,000 members.

In accordance with the constitution of the PRCU, Circuit 56, as the principal local promoter and guardian of the ideals and aims of the PRCU, has attempted from its very beginning through its activities to stimulate the growth and to maintain the prestige of the PRCU. As charged by its constitution, Circuit 56, as all circuits of the Union, will continue both to exert beneficial influence over its youth, and to keep watch over its language customs and its Christian faith, so steadfastly preserved for 1,000 years.

Circuit 56 Chaplains: Reverend H. Krysinski, Reverend A. Balczun; President...William Napiwocki; Vice-President, Mary Gajewski; Secretary, Frances Wolfe; Treasurer, Stanley Kurzeja; National Director, member of Circuit 56, John Mach.

ST. ADALBERT CHOIR
WHITING, INDIANA

A brief history of St. Adalbert Choir of St. Adalbert parish in Whiting Indiana.

Up until 1926 a Nun performed the duties of organist in the parish. It was strictly a female choir to conform with the regulations of the Order. However, due to the persistent pleas of a few musical and vocal male enthusiasts, the newly installed Reverend Pastor John N. Chylewski yielded and advertised in three Polish Daily papers for an organist. After a few days this advertisement was answered by Mr. Mitchell Wolski of Pana, Illinois. After being hired he immediately proceeded to a real development of music and song in addition to beautification of church services. To facilitate matters of operation, it was decided to elect a governing body or administration. The first acting administration was then elected: Don A. Kulpa, President; Joan Kropp, Vice-President; John Banaszak, Treasurer (now deceased); Angela Tokarz (now Mrs. Mathews) Financial Secretary; Constance Wysocka (now Mrs. Grembowicz) Recording Secretary; Ann Skiba (now in the Philippines) , Lucille Brzycka (now Mrs. Demps) Librarians; Reverend John N. Chylewski, pastor - Chaplain.

Mr. Mitchell Wolski, lured by a substantial and lucrative position in Chicago, resigned and was succeeded by Mr. Leon Cieszykowski, who after a brief stay likewise followed Mr. Wolski to Chicago. Then came Mr. Witold Prusinowski, a very dedicated and able musician under whose direction the choir reached its peak of success and popularity.

In late 1929 the economic conditions began to break, and Mr. Don A. Kulpa, like many others, was compelled to seek betterment, and asked to be relieved of the office of president and he was succeeded by the Vice - President Mr. Frank Mazurkiewicz (now deceased). In the 1929 election, Mr. Anthon A. Guzek was chosen as President and due to his ability and geniality was President for many years.

Noting the success, work, spirit and enthusiasm of the choir, the Polish Singers Alliance of America, a national organization, invited the choir to join its ranks. With the approval and sanction of Reverend Pastor Chylewski, in 1930 the choir joined the Alliance receiving its roster Number 187. In 1931 the Choir accepted the challenge of hosting the Indiana State convention and combined with its musical and vocal efforts it achieved great success. Moreover, the choir proceeded to increase its popularity and success by accepting invitations for participation in various musical and artistic displays, not only in the Calumet region but in Chicago as well.

The depressed economic conditions of the early 1930's caused very unfortunate changes in the life and ranks of the choir. Mr. Witold Prusinowski had to seek better livelihood in Chicago, and was succeeded by Mr. Joseph Matejko (now deceased) who under the circumstances, did very well. Father Chylewski seeing no immediate alleviation of economic conditions was having difficulty in obtaining able and responsible director - organists. After grave and serious discussions with some of the influential parishioners and choir leaders, he appointed Mrs. Constance (Wysocki) Grembowicz as resident organist and choir director, who contributed very successfully not only in music but also to the social life of the choir until the recent Liturgical changes.

In the meantime, members are in indirect contact with one another, biding their time patiently awaiting a better tomorrow, because -

"Who withdraws into silence and shade,
Will never accomplish and have it made."

Present choir officers are: Wanda Dobbs, President; Joseph Steffel, Vice-President; Vivian Walczak, Recording Secretary; Theresa Ostrowski, Financial Secretary: Josephine Freeman, Louise Klosek, Librarians; Constance Grembowicz, Directress.

ASSUMPTION CHURCH - NEW CHICAGO, INDIANA

This is a story of the dream of pioneer settlers of Polish origin in New Chicago, Indiana. For them, over half a century ago, New Chicago, Indiana, meant a new home, a new opportunity of making a living, a new life for themselves and their families in a harsh but hospitable land.

They applied themselves to hard work as there were no easy jobs available for them, and they earned their daily bread by the sweat of their brows. They prospered according to the standards of the old world.

Yet that material prosperity was not sufficient for them. "Man does not live by bread alone," the Gospel says. They had spiritual needs and their dream developed and materialized from these needs. They were Poles by birth, raised in the Roman Catholic Faith of their fathers and their fathers' fathers. They were sons and daughters of a nation recognized as "Semper Fidelis," always faithful to their beliefs. Their dream was to have their own church, their own parish.

They began to talk about it among themselves. The one who spoke most often about it was Simon Dziubla. Meeting his compatriots after a Sunday Mass in neighboring Hobart, Indiana, he spoke to them of forming a committee and starting their own parish. These talks bore fruit. A meeting was held on St. Joseph's Day, March 19, 1917; and 33 families pledged themselves to start a parish. The following were elected: Albert Przeniczny, Chairman of the Committee; Joseph Kolczak, Vice-chairman; John Glen, Recording Secretary; Apolinary Szewczykowski, Financial Secretary and John Kolczak, Treasurer.

Work began immediately. An old, abandoned school building was rented. Church vestments were bought. Mr. Dziubla and Mr. Przeniczny, as leaders of the group, petitioned His Excellency Herman Alerding, Ordinary of Fort Wayne diocese, for permission to establish a new parish. Permission was granted and The Reverend A. Kakelek, pastor of the neighboring parish celebrated the first Mass on the first Sunday of Advent in 1917. The parish was dedicated to the veneration of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Lack of space in this book will not permit us to mark step-by-step the work done to establish this parish on a solid foundation. We state only the milestones in its progress:

In May 1918, The Reverend Ignatius Gapczynski was assigned pastor of this parish.

In December 1918, The Reverend Anthony Gorek became pastor. It was during his pastorate that the land was acquired on which the present church has been erected. The same energetic committee, comprised of Mr. Dziubla, Mr. Prezeniczny and Mr. Kolczak, bought an old building which was remodeled into a church. The first church building was blessed in May, 1918, by The Reverend Peter Budnik, pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish in East Chicago, Indiana.

In 1921, The Reverend Michael Gadacz became pastor. The committee purchased sufficient land to build a rectory and a hall which was later remodeled into classrooms.

The Reverend Michael Petzold became pastor in September 1926 and served the parish to 1929. From 1929 to 1933 The Reverend Francis Libert was pastor.

On March 19, 1939, the Feast of St. Joseph, the Women's Rosary Society sent a committee to the Bishop requesting his permission to build a new church: Mary Dziubla, Anna Janiczek, Frances Lalus, Mary Lach and Helen Dziubla. His Excellency Bishop John Francis Noll, not only gave them permission, but thanked them for their interest and enthusiasm for the project and he pledged $2,000.00 towards the new church building fund.

On July 6, 1939, The Reverend Valerian S. Karcz was appointed pastor. His first and most important project was to build a new church. This he began with such an enthusiasm and energy that within the first year of his pastorate a new church was built, and a school was consecrated by the Most Rev. John Francis Noll on August 6, 1940. The second project to be realized was the Sisters Convent which was built in 1945.

Since the growing parish needed a bigger school, additional classrooms were built, enlarged, and modernized. In 1959, a dream came true for the people of the Assumption Parish who for many years dreamed of a Parish Hall -- a place to assemble, to hold meetings and socials and where the youth of the parish could spend an evening in their own company. Villa Rose Hall was purchased, and a complete reconstruction and renovation took place. Today it is one of the best and largest halls in Hobart Township.

In 1964, four square blocks were purchased for use as a playground for the children and a parking lot for the people of the Assumption Parish.

The spiritual care of his parishioners being of prime importance, Father Karcz organized the Holy Name Society, high school religion classes for the youth of the parish, the Assumption Ushers, the St. Cecilia Choir, Ladies' and Girls' Rosary Sodalities Home and School Association, and inquiry classes for converts.

The parish has been blessed with vocations, since 1939 there have been two ordinations to the priesthood and ten nuns and two brothers in the religious orders.

HISTORY OF WHITING

In 1889 the Calumet Region experienced the first substantial impact of the American Industrial Revolution when the Standard Oil Company began the construction of a great refinery at Whiting. This was also the first major industrial development along the Indiana shore of Lake Michigan. The city was the birthplace of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana and is known as the capital of that great oil empire.

The site of Whiting was one of the most uninviting portions of the region. The greater part of the area was a wilderness of sand and swamps. The advent of the railroads and the low prices asked by the state for the swamp lands attracted shrewd investors and speculators to the region. Most of the early settlers made their living by working as section hands on the railroads, there being little else to provide them with an income.

Early in September, 1890, the great refinery began its operations and has not ceased. Before the construction of the refinery, Whiting had too small a population to justify its incorporation as a town. However, in 1903, Whiting's independence became a reality and it was incorporated as a city. By 1920 the Poles were the second largest nationality group in Whiting, second only to the Slovaks.

STELLA MARIS RETREAT HOUSE

FRANCISCAN FATHERS

P. O. BOX 164

CEDAR LAKE, INDIANA 46303

Phone: Area Code 219 374-2141

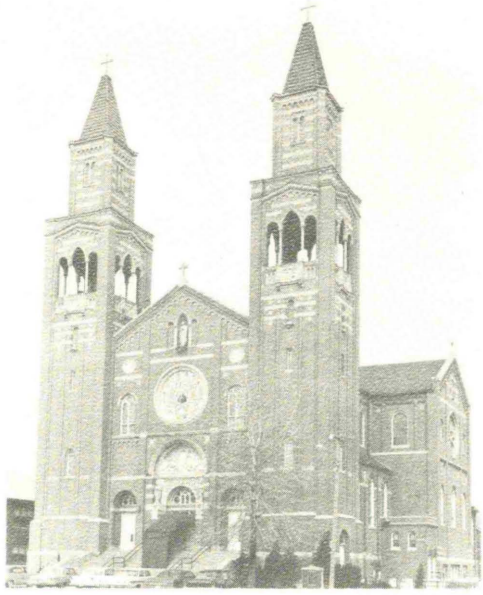
National enthusiam is the great nursery of genius.

—Tuckerman

May the good Lord's Graces and Blessings descend on us in the future, as they have in the past Millennium.

The Franciscan Fathers and Brothers (O.F.M.) of the Assumption Province of Pulaski, Wisconsin, Cedar Lake, Indiana.

Days of recollection preached in the English and Polish language since 1941



ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA CHURCH MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA

Among one of the pioneer Polish Parishes of the Gary diocese is that of St. Stanislaus Kostka in Michigan City. Bishop Alerding of the mother diocese of Fort Wayne named the Reverend Emmanuel Wrobel to start a parish for the Polish speaking people of Michigan City in July, 1890. After residing temporarily at St. Mary's rectory and holding services at St. Mary's Hall, he was appointed officially pastor of the new parish in January, 1891. A parish plant was built that year with a two story combination building on the corner of Washington and Ripley streets serving as school, church and sister's convent. Father Wrobel enlarged this building in 1906, and built a two-story rectory next door.

The Reverend Joseph Bolka became pastor in 1909 and administered the parish until his death on April 28, 1941. During his pastorate Father Bolka expanded the parish to much of its present ample facilities. He built the impressive and beautiful church in 1926 over a church crypt which has been used since 1916. The present distinguished sisters' convent was constructed in 1938. The old original combination church, school and nun's convent was replaced by a large brick school in 1940. Father Bolka had a unique policy of only building when he had funds and thereby avoiding any large debts, so that by the time the convent and the church were dedicated they were already paid for and the new school was half paid for.

Following a short term as acting pastor during the fatal illness of the recently named Monsignor Joseph Bolka, the Reverend Julian Doktor became pastor on April 28, 1941. Monsignor Doktor added a modern wing containg the gym, recreation rooms, visual aid room, and several classes to the grade school in 1959. The present new and commodious rectory was constructed in 1957. One of the most striking sanctuaries in the diocese was added to the already lovely church. Tuck pointing the church enhanced the appearance of the structure in 1960.

After the death of Monsignor Doktor, the Right Reverend Monsignor Louis W. Michalski was appointed pastor by Bishop Grutka on July 17, 1965. The parish which is now on the eve of its diamond jubilee numbers a thousand families, consists of a parochial school with 525 students and 21 parish organizations. A Memorial Carillon with 21 Silver bells has been recently installed. At present, plans are being made for extensive remodeling and modernization of the church hall and grounds. The Reverend Michael Tomaszewski and the Reverend Paschal Grygus, O.F.M. are assistants to the pastor.

Three sons of the parish have entered the priesthood. The Reverend Ambrose Switzer and the Reverend Casimer Senderak serve in the diocese of Gary. The Reverend Walter Kapica is a member of the Society of Jesus. At present six young men are in the Diocesan seminary and one in the Franciscan Seminary. Twenty five girls from the parish are nuns: sixteen of them are in the order of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, teaching in the St. Stanislaus Grade School, the remaining are in six other orders. Five girls are aspirants and two are postulants of the Notre Dame Sisters.

Already in 1855 Poles were settling in Northern Indiana. LaPorte County offered an opportunity for the immigrants to follow their European livelihood, farming. The Polish immigrants who settled here were served from St. Joseph's Church, LaPorte, for many years until their own church, St. Mary's, was built in Otis in 1873. This parish, then, was the first Polish Catholic parish in Indiana. After the year 1876, the Poles began settling in other parts of Indiana. The parish records of St. Mary's Church of Otis show Poles of Rolling Prairie, New Carlisle, Terre Coupe, and South Bend affiliated with Otis until local Polish Catholic parishes could be established in these areas.

The Poles at LaPorte attended one of the other two churches until January, 1913, when the Reverend John Osadnik organized them into a parish and built a combination church and school.

This parish was attended for a number of years from Terre Coupe until 1919, when the Reverend John Hosinski was appointed pastor.

People from Poland began to settle in South Bend in 1869 and, with the growth of Studebaker and other industries in that city, they came in increasing numbers until today they support four large parishes. Until the year 1877 they were attended from Chicago and from Otis, Indiana. On July 1, 1877, the original frame church of St. Hedwig's was completed and later replaced in 1883 on new property. For the convenience of Polish Catholics residing in the northwest section of the city, St. Stanislaus' congregation, then comprising sixty families, was formed in the year 1898 by the pastor of St. Hedwig's, the Reverend Father Czyzewski.

In 1899 St. Casimir's Church was erected; and then in 1910 St. Adalbert's Church was organized to serve Polish Catholics in other sections of South Bend.

Some of the Polish people, who lived in St. Joseph County, moved into the territory west of South Bend and were attended from St. Hedwig Parish in that city. The original church at Terre Coupee was built by Father Czyzewski in 1884.

Polish people resided, for the most part, in the southeastern part of Fort Wayne. The parish of St. Hyacinth was organized in 1910 to meet their needs.

OTIS
(St. Mary's Church 1873)

It is interesting to go "way, way back" and learn why a certain group of people settled in a certain community. With the Poles as with other groups of immigrants, two factors were responsible for their leaving Europe – quest for a livelihood (bread) and freedom from oppression.

Once a family "settled," in a short time, relatives, friends, usually from the same village or country of Europe joined them. With Otis, it was the same. The first parishioners came from Poznan (Posen) – then under German occupation – more specificially from the villages of Kcynia, Szubin and Krolikowo, a few families from East Prussia. A Pole and a Roman Catholic is synonymous; when the number of families grew to about 100 families, their spiritual needs were ministered to them by Father Bartosz, a Pole, who was pastor of St. Joseph's church of LaPorte, Indiana. In 1871, Reverend Francis Szulak, a Jesuit and guest of the Lewandowski family, came with his host Jacob Lewandowski to the conclusion that the Poles should have their own place of worship – a church. Good cooperation of the people followed and the first church was completed in the Spring of 1873. With the permission of Bishop Joseph Dwenger, Reverend Szulak blessed the new edifice, in the presence of Reverend Peter Koncz of Chesterton, Indiana, who later became the first resident pastor of St. Mary's in Otis.

This Reverend Koncz held the pastorate until July of 1875; during all this time he served a church at South Bend, Indiana, once a month, and held services at Rolling Prairie, New Carlisle and Terre Coupe, a few times a year. Until 1876, there were no other parish buildings, but the church. After that year, the Poles began settling in other parts of Indiana. The parish records of St. Mary's church in Otis show Poles of Rolling Prairie, New Carlisle, Terre Coupe and South Bend, affiliated with Otis. When in 1876 the Poles of South Bend erected their own church, the above mentioned villages were served from South Bend.

Reverend Louis Machdzicki succeeded as the second pastor of St. Mary's. This zealous priest organized many church and fraternal societies. He was followed by a Polish refugee Franciscan priest, the Reverend Urban Raszkiewicz, who became pastor of St. Mary's on August 6, 1881. This pious priest left many fine memories in the minds of the Otis people. A young priest, a "product" of Otis, educated by Father Raszkiewicz, became pastor after the death of his benefactor in 1909; Reverend Alexander Buechler. Two other Polish priests followed him at St. Mary's; Reverend Peter Budnik and Reverend Thomas Jankowski. Their stay was of a short duration.

On July 6, 1914, Reverend John Wroblewski, came as pastor to Otis. Three years later misfortune struck Otis. Fire on February 21, 1917, destroyed the church and the rectory. The school was the only building left standing. Undaunted by this severe blow, the people of Otis built a new church, which was completed in May of 1919.

Reverend John Biernacki came to Otis July 15, 1927 for a five year long pastorate, followed by Reverend John S. Sosinski who left on November 15, 1938. Reverend Louis F. Bozik then came from San Pierre, Indiana, for many years of a dedicated lief to his flock till his sudden death in June 1959, at which time the Reverend Roman Wojcicki started his three years of pastorate, also interrupted by a sudden call from the Lord in September, 1963, in the young years of his priestly life.

May God give a long life to our new pastor, the Rev. John C. Bargielski, and bless his work among us, his people, in this old Polish settlement of Otis!

POLONIA YOUTH CENTER FORMERLY INDIANA P.N.A. YOUTH CAMP, INCORPORATED

Chronological Resume:

1954 - "camp Fund" opened by the late Attorney Frank Spychalski.

1958 - First meeting held July 19 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. Krasowski in Hammond with 23 persons attending.

State charter obtained by Attorney F. Spychalski, September 17.

1959 - First election of officers held February 29, elected 33 members of the Board of Directors, who in turn elected the executive officers.

A 164 acre farm for camp grounds purchased from Mrs. Flora Malczewski (3 miles south of U.S. 30 on Highway 51 near Crown Point) -September 15.

Membership: 46 organizations and 212 individuals.

Immediate Needs: Swimming pool, athletic field, improvement of parking facilities.

The Purposes: To maintain land with its natural resources of minerals, water, trees, plants and wild life, to conserve the same as it was given to us by our Lord and God, so that the present and future generations may enjoy the great outdoors for recreation, rest and deliberation.

To encourage and teach our children to maintain our Polish culture.

To install in them the appreciation of our Polish history, songs and tradition by which they will be better Americans of Polish descent.

In time to make this a real Polish Youth Center infusing into the American life the very best of our culture and arts of our forefathers.

The success of our Polonia Youth Center is due largely to the splendid cooperation of Mr. Edward Oskierko of WJOB Hammond and Mr. Alex Wachel of the Polish Press.

Henry Krasowski, President; Edward D. Oskierko, 1st Vice President; A. Subartowicz, Vice President; K. Podkul, Vice President; J. Kosik, Vice Presient; E. Subartowicz 1st Vice President; Ann Primer, Vice President; Mary Podkul, Vice President; Pauline Cyganiewicz, Vice President; E. Subartowicz, Recording Secretary; Adam Drazbo, Financial Secretary; Bron. Jawor, Treasurer; Edward Depta, Sargent at arms; Vitold Reey, Legal Advisor.

Best Wishes on this Great Occasion

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NEST 787, HAMMOND
NEST 169, EAST HAMMOND
NEST 829, WHITING

THE ST. BARBARA'S LODGE #368

was organized in Whiting, Indiana December 12, 1908 by Rev. Felix Seroczynski and parishioners Joseph Gmerek and Stanley Sobieczyk,

Caroline Hapak – President
Sophie Hapak – Vice-President
Wanda Dobbs – Financial Secy.
Frances Ostrowski – Rec. Secy.
Angeline Jamroz – Trustee

ST. ADALBERT'S
LADIES ROSARY SOCIETY

St. Adalbert's Ladies Rosary Society, Whiting, Indiana, was organized in 1902 by the first Pastor Rev. Peter Budnik. The first chairman was Mrs. Victoria Walczak.

On the first Friday of the month, there is a Mass for the living and deceased members.

A meeting is held on the first Sunday of the month. A Gregorian Mass is said for every deceased member. At the present, the Society consists of 90 members.

The officers are: M. Walczak, Chairman; M. Jamrose, A. Stanish, M. Skalka.

ST. HEDWIG'S SOCIETY
GROUP #37

St. Hedwig's Society, Group #37 of the Polish Women's Alliance was organized in St. Adalbert's Parish, Whiting, Ind. on January 24, 1904.

Angeline Stanish
Genevieve Solys
Wanda Szlanda
Mary Jamrosz
Wanda Walski
Helen Dostatni
Genevieve Murzyn
Mary Dybel
Stella Preneta
Anna Pawlikowska
Frances Ostrowski

"It is the fate of this generation...to live with a struggle we did not start, in a world we did not make...And while no nation has ever faced such a challenge, *no nation has ever been so ready to seize the burden and the glory of freedom.*"

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Sincere Congratulations and Heartfelt Wishes from the members of

St. Hedwig's Lodge Group 807 Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

Our Lady of Czestohowa Church

of Hammond, Indiana

Organized in 1914

OFFICERS

Mrs. Helen Schilling

Mrs. Helen Spudich

Mrs. Lottie Pinkowski

"There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations..." —Patrick Henry

STEEL CITY FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN

Gary, Indiana

Polish Roman Catholic Union St. Rose of Lima Society No. 565

Indiana Harbor, Indiana

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Mrs. Mary Retigan, Recording Secretary

Mrs. Helen Michalak, Treasurer

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BEST WISHES ON

1000 YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY

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Financial Sec.:	Wanda Kreczmer
Treasurer:	Bertha Wietecha
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	Anna Zimnowski
	Helen Majkowski

"The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone. It is to the vigilant, the active, the brave."
--Patrick Henry

HOLY ROSARY SODALITY

ST. JOHN CANTIUS PARISH

INDIANA HARBOR, INDIANA

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Vice-President:	Josephine Adamczyk
Financial Sec.:	Genevieve Harney
Financial Sec.:	Margaret Surdzial
Recording Sec.:	Mary Retigan
Treasurer:	Bernice Kluga
Auditors:	Sophie Wojcik
	Sophie Basiago

"Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!"
--Patrick Henry

POLISH ROMAN UNION OF AMERICA

Society 337

Chaplain:	Rev. Casimir Senderak
President:	M. Grabek
Hon. President:	Joseph Olszowka
Vice-President:	W. Boguslawski
Secretary:	Adele Grabek
Financial Sec.:	Irene Ziol
Treasurer:	Joseph Ziol

Society exists from the year 1906
at St. Hedwig's Parish
Gary, Indiana

Thomas Paine:
"O ye that love mankind! Ye that dare oppose not only tyranny but the tyrant, stand forth!"

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE

East Chicago, Indiana

GROUP 362

President:	John Trela
Vice-President:	John Piznarski
Financial Sec.:	Joseph Nowak
Treasurer:	Ben Bochnowski
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"Let the consequences be what they will, I am determined to proceed. The only principles of public conduct, that are worthy of a gentleman, or a man, are to sacrifice estate, ease, health, and applause, and even life, to the sacred calls of his country. These manly sentiments, in private life, make the good citizen; in putlic life, the patriot and the hero."
-- James Otis

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on the occasion of

Poland's Millennium of Christianity

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All Our Polish Friends

on the occasion of

Poland's Millennium of Christianity

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Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me;
I lift my lamp beside the golden door,"

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For purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plain..."

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that sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities stand,
undimmed by human tears..."

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And crown thy good with brotherhood,
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"My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the Pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside,
Let Freedom ring!"

Congratulations to our many friends of Polish descent, whom we have been privileged to serve during the past years, on the occasion of the celebration of the Millennium Anniversary.

You can be proud of your contribution to the Christian world during the past ten centuries.

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Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;...

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GEORGE WASHINGTON (contd)
"Interwoven as is the love of liberty with every ligament of your hearts, no recommendation of mine is necessary to fortify or confirm the attachment.

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WHITING, INDIANA

"The unity of Government which constitutes you one people is also now dear to you. It is justly so, for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence, the support of your tranquillity at home, your peace abroad, of your safety, of your prosperity, of that very liberty which you so highly prize.

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Building Service Employees' Union

wish to extend their compliments on this years celebration of the 1,000th anniversary of Poland's entrance into the Christian world and the ten centuries of valiant defense and promotion of western culture.

GARY, INDIANA

"You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together. The independence and liberty you possess are the work of joint councils and joint efforts, of common dangers, sufferings, and successes..."

"Let's never give up the struggle for freedom under God."

— Theodore L. Sendak, Chairman
Lake County Republican
Central Committee

GEORGE WASHINGTON: (contd)
"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports.

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WHITING, INDIANA

JOHN ADAMS:
"The happiness of society is the end of government.

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"...do solemnly publish and declare, that these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states;

"...for the support of this declaration with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

Judge FELIX and

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WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON:
"I am in earnest. I will not equivocate; I will not excuse; I will not retreat a single inch; and I will be heard! I will be as harsh as truth and as uncompromising as justice.

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"With reasonable men, I will reason; with humane men I will plead; but to tyrants I will give no quarter nor waste arguments where they will certainly be lost.

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WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON (contd)
"Wherever there is a human being, I see God-given rights inherent in that being ...

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THOMAS PAINE: *THE CRISIS*
"These are times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

STANDARD EQUIPMENT COMPANY

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THOMAS PAINE: *THE CRISIS (contd)*

"Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph.

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENTS OF THE POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

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Group 201 -- Miss Regina Rozewicz, President
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"What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; it is dearness only that gives everything its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated."

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN:
We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break, our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearth-stone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Sincerest Best Wishes

St. Bernice Society No. 834

St. Peter and Paul Society No. 234

POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA

in

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

LAKE COUNTY

DEMOCRATIC

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

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COUNTY CHAIRMAN

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VICE CHAIRLADY

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SECRETARY

LESLIE O. PRUITT
TREASURER

JOHN F. PERS
DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

MRS. JESSIE MITCHELL
DISTRICT CHAIRLADY

ABRAHAM LINCOLN (contd)
"It is for us the living to be here dedicated to the unfinish work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced...

CHICAGO SOUTH SHORE & SOUTH BEND RAILROAD

MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA

"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us --

PEOPLES WHOLESALE CO., INC.

Stanley Skawinski, Pres.

4914 INDIANAPOLIS BLVD.

EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

"that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion;

PIONEER NATIONAL TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY

107 North Main Street Crown Point, Indiana

GARY OFFICE
27 West 7th Avenue

HAMMOND OFFICE
59 Muenich Court

"... that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Bernard A. Dziadowicz FUNERAL HOME

4404 Cameron Avenue

Hammond, Indiana

ABRAHAM LINCOLN (contd)

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in...

UNITED STEELWORKERS of AMERICA

LOCAL 1010

3703 EUCLID AVENUE

EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA

"... to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

CALUMET BREWERIES INC.

THE KIERNAN FAMILY

6535 OSBORN AVENUE

HAMMOND, INDIANA

WOODROW WILSON:

"We see that in many things that life is very great. It is incomparably great in its material aspects, in its body of wealth, in the diversity and sweep of its energy, in the industries which have been conceived and built up by the genius of individual men and the limitless enterprise of groups of men ...

Global Travel Agency

TRAVEL CONSULTANTS

7133 INDIANAPOLIS BOULEVARD
HAMMOND, INDIANA

Edwin Gorczyca

"It is great, also, very great, in its moral force. Nowhere else in the world have noble men and women exhibited in more striking forms the beauty and the energy of sympathy and helpfulness and counsel in their efforts to rectify wrong, alleviate suffering, and to provide the weak with strength and hope.

HENRY KOWALCZYK

HAMMOND, INDIANA

"... a great system of government, which has stood through a long age as a model for those who seek to set liberty upon foundations that will endure ... This is the high enterprise of the new day: To lift every thing that concerns our life as a nation to the light that shines from the hearthfire of every man's conscience and vision of the right.

BEST WISHES ON YOUR 1000th ANNIVERSARY

AMERICAN OIL COMPANY

WHITING REFINERY

2815 INDIANAPOLIS BOULEVARD
WHITING, INDIANA

"Men's hearts wait upon us; men's lives hang in the balance; men's hopes call upon us to say what we will do. Who shall live up to the great trust: Why dares fail to try?"

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

4 1/2% Passbook Time Deposit Account INTEREST (Compounded Quarterly)

BANK of INDIANA

7 Convenient Locations
DOWNTOWN • MIDTOWN • GLEN PARK • MILLER
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THE CONSTITUTION:

1. "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

JUDGE ANTHONY ROSZKOWSKI

504 BROADWAY

GARY, INDIANA

2. (The First Amendment) "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

Gary National Bank

504 BROADWAY
GARY, INDIANA

WE SALUTE

ONE THOUSAND YEARS FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

966 -- 1966

PEOPLES FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION

East Chicago, Indiana

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Marcel Hodupski	Director Emeritus

THE FOURTEEN POINTS: XIII:

"An independent Polish state should be erected which should include the territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations ...

"whose political and economic independence and territorial integrity should be guaranteed by international covenant ...

"... intimate partners of all the governments and peoples associated together against the Imperialists ...

"An evident principle...the principle of justice to all peoples and nationalities, and the right to live on equal terms of liberty and safety with one another, whether they be strong or weak...

"... ready to devote their lives, their honor, and everything they possess...ready to put their own strength, their own highest purpose, their own integrity and devotion to the test..."

-- Woodrow Wilson

City of East Chicago

JOHN B. NICOSIA, Mayor

FRANLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT:

"This great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive, and will prosper ... the only thing we have to fear is fear itself..."

"Four essential human freedoms ... freedom of speech and expression -- everywhere in the world ... freedom of every person to worship God in his own way -- everywhere in the world ... freedom from want ... freedom from fear ..."

CITY of HAMMOND, INDIANA

EDWARD C. DOWLING, Mayor

THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER:

"We the peoples of the United Nations, determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war...to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights...to establish ...justice and respect for...international law...to promote social progress and better standards of life...law...to promote social progress and better standards of life... do hereby establish an international organization."

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION of East Chicago

CHESTER J. WLEKLINSKI, President

NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

ma zaszczyt przyłączyć się do Polskiej Publiczności

ze stanu Indiana

by razem z nimi uroczyście obchodzić w tym roku

Wielki Jubileusz

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oraz

dziesięć wieków bohaterskiej obrony kultury i cywilizacji zachodniej.

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SINCLAIR REFINING COMPANY

P.O. Box 136, Clermont, Ind. 46119

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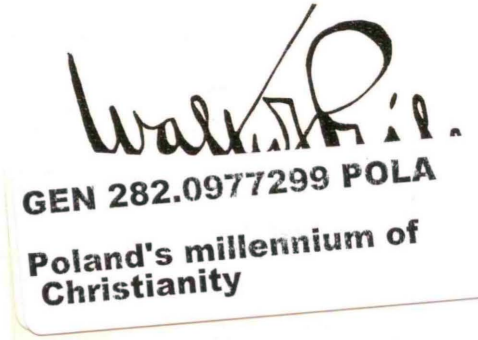
"... Peace that makes life on earth worth living, the kind that enables men and nations to grow and to hope and to build a better life for their children -- not merely peace for Americans, but peace for all men and women; not merely peace in our time, but peace for all time."

-- John F. Kennedy



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Poland's millennium of Christianity

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7 KLINES PRINTERS — HAMMOND, INDIANA

THE STATE FLAG

The state banner was adopted by the General Assembly in 1917 as part of the commemoration of the state's Centennial, after a competition sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The prize-winning design was submitted by Paul Hadley of Mooresville, Indiana. The torch in the center stands for liberty and enlightenment; the rays represent their far-reaching influence. The outer circle of stars stands for the original thirteen states, and the inner circle of stars for the five states next admitted to the Union. The large stars stands for Indiana, the nineteenth state. This banner is "regulation in addition to the American flag, with all of the military forces in the State of Indiana, and in all public functions in which the state may or shall officially appear." The state colors are always carried or displayed on the observer's right of the Stars and Stripes.